

JEREMIAH 30:1 - 33:
“THE NEED FOR REVIVAL”

READ THE FOLLOWING – JEREMIAH 33:1-9

JER 33:1 WHILE JEREMIAH WAS STILL CONFINED IN THE COURTYARD OF THE GUARD, THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO HIM A SECOND TIME:

JER 33:2 “THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS, HE WHO MADE THE EARTH, THE LORD WHO FORMED IT AND ESTABLISHED IT—THE LORD IS HIS NAME:

JER 33:3 ‘CALL TO ME AND I WILL ANSWER YOU AND TELL YOU GREAT AND UNSEARCHABLE THINGS YOU DO NOT KNOW.’

JER 33:4 FOR THIS IS WHAT THE LORD, THE GOD OF ISRAEL, SAYS ABOUT THE HOUSES IN THIS CITY AND THE ROYAL PALACES OF JUDAH THAT HAVE BEEN TORN DOWN TO BE USED AGAINST THE SIEGE RAMPS AND THE SWORD

JER 33:5 IN THE FIGHT WITH THE BABYLONIANS : ‘THEY WILL BE FILLED WITH THE DEAD BODIES OF THE MEN I WILL SLAY IN MY ANGER AND WRATH. I WILL HIDE MY FACE FROM THIS CITY BECAUSE OF ALL ITS WICKEDNESS.

JER 33:6 “ ‘NEVERTHELESS, I WILL BRING HEALTH AND HEALING TO IT; I WILL HEAL MY PEOPLE AND WILL LET THEM ENJOY ABUNDANT PEACE AND SECURITY.

JER 33:7 I WILL BRING JUDAH AND ISRAEL BACK FROM CAPTIVITY AND WILL REBUILD THEM AS THEY WERE BEFORE.

JER 33:8 I WILL CLEANSE THEM FROM ALL THE SIN THEY HAVE COMMITTED AGAINST ME AND WILL FORGIVE ALL THEIR SINS OF REBELLION AGAINST ME.

JER 33:9 THEN THIS CITY WILL BRING ME RENOWN, JOY, PRAISE AND HONOR BEFORE ALL NATIONS ON EARTH THAT HEAR OF ALL THE GOOD THINGS I DO FOR IT; AND THEY WILL BE IN AWE AND WILL TREMBLE AT THE ABUNDANT PROSPERITY AND PEACE I PROVIDE FOR IT.’

ONE AUTHOR WRITES,

*“THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE SURVIVED, ASTONISHINGLY. * WHO IN JEREMIAH’S TIME COULD HAVE PREDICTED THEIR PERSISTENCE, WHEN THEY WERE HEMMED IN AND THREATENED WITH TOTAL DESTRUCTION? THE BABYLONIANS CONQUERED AND CARRIED THEM INTO EXILE. BUT WHERE ARE THE BABYLONIANS TODAY? THE STORY OF THE JEWS IS A LONG CHRONICLE OF DISCRIMINATION, EXILE, PUNISHMENT, AND SLAUGHTER. AGAINST NO OTHER PEOPLE HAVE SUCH DESTRUCTIVE MEASURES BEEN TAKEN. YET THEY HAVE SURVIVED, AND THRIVED. THEIR LANGUAGE ENDURES. THEIR BOOK, THE OLD TESTAMENT, IS PART OF THE GREAT BEST SELLER OF ALL TIME. THEY HAVE REBUILT THEIR NATION. EVEN MORE REMARKABLY, THIS DURABILITY WAS PREDICTED IN WRITING 2,500 YEARS AGO. GOD PROMISED - HE WOULD NEVER REJECT HIS PEOPLE.*

JEREMIAH HAS OFTEN BEEN CALLED, “THE WEEPING PROPHET.” SOME HAVE TERMED HIM AS LONG FACED – TEMPERAMENTAL – TEARY-EYED & NEUROTIC, SEEN AS A MISFIT BUNGLING PREACHER. YET, WHEN UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY, HE IS TRULY SEEN AS GOD’S PROPHET OF HOPE. IN THE DARKEST DAYS – HE WAS ABLE TO SEE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL.

JEREMIAH’S CALL IS FOUND IN, JER 1:4 “THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME, SAYING, 5 “BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN THE WOMB I KNEW YOU, BEFORE YOU WERE BORN I SET YOU APART; I APPOINTED YOU AS A PROPHET TO THE NATIONS.” 6 “AH, SOVEREIGN LORD,” I SAID, “I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO SPEAK; I AM ONLY A CHILD.”

JER 1:7 BUT THE LORD SAID TO ME, “DO NOT SAY, ‘I AM ONLY A CHILD.’ YOU MUST GO TO EVERYONE I SEND YOU TO AND SAY WHATEVER I COMMAND YOU. 8 DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEM, FOR I AM WITH YOU AND WILL RESCUE YOU,”
DECLARES THE LORD.

9 THEN THE LORD REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOUCHED MY MOUTH AND SAID TO ME, “NOW, I HAVE PUT MY WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH. 10 SEE, TODAY I APPOINT YOU OVER NATIONS.

OF THE 52 CHAPTERS OF JEREMIAH, 30 – 33 ARE THE MAIN ONES OF CONSOLATION AND COMFORT – REVIVAL.

OUR FIRST TRUTH WE SEE IS -

❶ JUDAH – THE SO. KINGDOM WAS A LOST CAUSE.

GOD’S FAVOR WAS NO LONGER WITH THEM -

THIS NATION – ONCE BLESSED BY GOD – HAD FALLEN INTO SIN – TERRIBLE SIN

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READ JER 2:1-8

JER 2:1 THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME:

JER 2:2 “GO AND PROCLAIM IN THE HEARING OF JERUSALEM:

“ ‘I REMEMBER THE DEVOTION OF YOUR YOUTH, HOW AS A BRIDE YOU LOVED ME AND FOLLOWED ME THROUGH THE DESERT, THROUGH A LAND NOT SOWN.

JER 2:3 ISRAEL WAS HOLY TO THE LORD, THE FIRSTFRUITS OF HIS HARVEST;

ALL WHO DEVoured HER WERE HELD GUILTY, AND DISASTER OVERTOOK THEM,’ ”
DECLARES THE LORD.

JER 2:4 HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD, O HOUSE OF JACOB, ALL YOU CLANS OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL.

JER 2:5 THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS: “WHAT FAULT DID YOUR FATHERS FIND IN ME, THAT THEY STRAYED SO FAR FROM ME? THEY FOLLOWED WORTHLESS IDOLS AND BECAME WORTHLESS THEMSELVES.

JER 2:6 THEY DID NOT ASK, ‘WHERE IS THE LORD, WHO BROUGHT US UP OUT OF EGYPT AND LED US THROUGH THE BARREN WILDERNESS,

THROUGH A LAND OF DESERTS AND RIFTS, A LAND OF DROUGHT AND DARKNESS, A LAND WHERE NO ONE TRAVELS AND NO ONE LIVES?'
JER 2:7 I BROUGHT YOU INTO A FERTILE LAND TO EAT ITS FRUIT AND RICH PRODUCE. BUT YOU CAME AND DEFILED MY LAND AND MADE MY INHERITANCE DETESTABLE.

JER 2:8 THE PRIESTS DID NOT ASK, 'WHERE IS THE LORD?' THOSE WHO DEAL WITH THE LAW DID NOT KNOW ME; THE LEADERS REBELLED AGAINST ME. THE PROPHETS PROPHESED BY BAAL, FOLLOWING WORTHLESS IDOLS.

S T R A Y I N G

* IT'S EASY FOR NATIONS TO STRAY – CHURCHES SOMETIMES STRAY – AND WE AS HUMANS CERTAINLY STRAY

* JUDAH HAD – TEMPLE WORSHIP HAD – AND THE PEOPLE HAD.
NOW THEY WERE PAYING THE PRICE.

1:16 I WILL PRONOUNCE MY JUDGMENTS ON MY PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THEIR WICKEDNESS IN FORSAKING ME, IN BURNING INCENSE TO OTHER GODS AND IN WORSHIPING WHAT THEIR HANDS HAVE MADE.

* WE MUST BE CAREFUL WHAT OUR HANDS GET IN TO.

② IN LOSING GOD'S FAVOR, THEY SUFFERED SEVERE CIRCUMSTANCES

JUDAH WAS ATTACKED BY BABYLON FOR 18 MONTHS - THEN IT FELL.

* JUDAH WAS OVERTHROWN – CARRIED INTO CAPTIVITY FOR 70 YEARS
JER 25:11 "THIS WHOLE COUNTRY WILL BECOME A DESOLATE WASTELAND, AND THESE NATIONS WILL SERVE THE KING OF BABYLON SEVENTY YEARS.

WHEN WE PLAY WITH SIN – W E L O S E. THEY LOST THEIR CITY – LOST MANY LIVES – LOST THEIR FREEDOM & LOST 70 YEARS - A WHOLE LIFETIME OF PEACE AND JOY.

T H E Y N E E D E D R E V I V A L

BUT GOD TOLD JEREMIAH, AS YOU ARE BEING CARRIED AWAY INTO CAPTIVITY - JER 31:21 "SET UP ROAD SIGNS; PUT UP GUIDEPOSTS. TAKE NOTE OF THE HIGHWAY, THE ROAD THAT YOU TAKE.
RETURN, O VIRGIN ISRAEL, RETURN TO YOUR TOWNS.

NIV READERS VERSION,

JER 31:21 THE LORD SAYS, "PUT UP ROAD SIGNS. SET UP STONES TO SHOW THE WAY. LOOK CAREFULLY FOR THE HIGHWAY. LOOK FOR THE ROAD YOU WILL TAKE. RETURN PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. RETURN TO YOUR TOWNS.

WHY?

BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE COMING HOME SOMEDAY IN THE DISTANT FUTURE

GOD DOESN'T WANT HIS PEOPLE TO LIVE IN A FAR OFF COUNTRY. HE WANTS US HOME.

IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE WHO WE MIGHT BE, AN INDIVIDUAL, A COUPLE, A FAMILY, OR A NATION. THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT HOME THAT WE NEED. GOD MADE HOMES FOR US. HOMES TO ENJOY OUR FAMILIES WITH, AND HOMES FOR SECURITY AND COMFORT.

GOD WANTED HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL HOME WHERE HE FIRST PLANTED THEM. FOLLOWING THE 70 YEARS CAPTIVITY GOD WOULD DO JUST THAT.

③ GOD'S JUDGMENT WOULD BE MIXED WITH MERCY

FOLLOWING THE WORDS OF GOD'S SENTENCING ON JUDAH -

JER 33:5 "- - - I WILL HIDE MY FACE FROM THIS CITY BECAUSE OF ALL ITS WICKEDNESS.

IS FOUND IN V6, THE WORD, 'NEVERTHELESS THIS MEANS - (HOWEVER – NONETHELESS – EVEN SO – ON THE OTHER HAND.

NOTICE ALL THE "I WILLS"]

JER 33:6 " 'NEVERTHELESS, I WILL BRING HEALTH AND HEALING TO IT; I WILL HEAL MY PEOPLE AND WILL LET THEM ENJOY ABUNDANT PEACE AND SECURITY.

JER 30:3 THE DAYS ARE COMING,' DECLARES THE LORD, 'WHEN I WILL BRING MY PEOPLE ISRAEL AND JUDAH BACK FROM CAPTIVITY AND RESTORE THEM TO THE LAND I GAVE THEIR FOREFATHERS TO POSSESS,' SAYS THE LORD."

JER 30:8 " ' IN THAT DAY,' DECLARES THE LORD ALMIGHTY, 'I WILL BREAK THE YOKE OFF THEIR NECKS AND WILL TEAR OFF THEIR BONDS; NO LONGER WILL FOREIGNERS ENSLAVE THEM.

30:10 'I WILL SURELY SAVE YOU OUT OF A DISTANT PLACE

JER 30:17 BUT I WILL RESTORE YOU TO HEALTH AND HEAL YOUR WOUNDS,'

JER 30:18 "THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS: " 'I WILL RESTORE THE FORTUNES OF JACOB'S TENTS

AND HAVE COMPASSION ON HIS DWELLINGS; THE CITY WILL BE REBUILT ON HER RUINS, AND THE PALACE WILL STAND IN ITS PROPER PLACE.

JER 30:19 FROM THEM WILL COME SONGS OF THANKSGIVING AND THE SOUND OF REJOICING. I WILL ADD TO THEIR NUMBERS, AND THEY WILL NOT BE DECREASED; I WILL BRING THEM HONOR.

JER 30:21 THEIR LEADER WILL BE ONE OF THEIR OWN; THEIR RULER WILL ARISE FROM AMONG THEM. (THIS WOULD BE NONE OTHER THAN JESUS HIMSELF)

JER 31:2 I WILL COME TO GIVE REST TO ISRAEL.”

▶ JER 31:4 I WILL BUILD YOU UP AGAIN AND YOU WILL BE REBUILT, O VIRGIN ISRAEL.

▶ JER 31:9 THEY WILL COME WITH WEEPING; THEY WILL PRAY AS I BRING THEM BACK. I WILL LEAD THEM BESIDE STREAMS OF WATER.

▶ JER 31:13 THEN MAIDENS WILL DANCE AND BE GLAD, YOUNG MEN AND OLD AS WELL. I WILL TURN THEIR MOURNING INTO GLADNESS.

▶ JER 31:14 I WILL SATISFY THE PRIESTS WITH ABUNDANCE, AND MY PEOPLE WILL BE FILLED”

▶ JER 31:33 “THIS IS THE COVENANT I WILL MAKE, “I WILL PUT MY LAW IN THEIR MINDS AND WRITE IT ON THEIR HEARTS.

▶ I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY WILL BE MY PEOPLE.

▶ JER 31:34 “FOR I WILL FORGIVE THEIR WICKEDNESS AND WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE.”

▶ JER 32:39 I WILL GIVE THEM SINGLENESS OF HEART
(THE HEART CLEANSED OF SIN)

▶ JER 32:41 I WILL REJOICE IN DOING THEM GOOD AND WILL ASSUREDLY PLANT THEM IN THIS LAND.

GOD WOULD SURELY SEND RESTORATION, REVIVAL, AND RECOVERY TO HIS OWN PEOPLE.

DO YOU NEED REVIVED? DO YOU NEED RESTORED?

GOD WANTS TO DO THAT FOR YOU. IT WILL COME ONLY THROUGH FULL REPENTANCE OF PAST SINS AND FULL SURRENDERING TO DO HIS WILL.