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Daily Bible devotional; Daily Rice 2024 August 08 Jeremiah 31

YouTube Prayer Link

God's eternal and unchanging mercy

Jeremiah 31

God assured Jeremiah that Israel would have a bright future despite their expulsion. God says He will re-establish Israel and return them to their homeland, under God's protection. It will be an eternal covenant that God will make come true. God also showed Jeremiah His love and mercy. He said that he would give a new covenant, no longer just with Israel, but with the people of the whole world. It will be a life of eternal peace, love, and harmony with God.

Mount Ephraim (v.6) also refers to the northern kingdom of Israel. "Watchmen" are those who observe the first appearance of the new moon. The ancient Israel decided on the beginning of the month based on the first appearance of the new moon and calculated the time to go to Jerusalem to observe the feast.

"For the shout of the head among the nations" means that God's restored Israel will raise its brow among the nations. "Gathering from the ends of the earth" means that the ten northern tribes, no matter where they fall in the world, will be brought back by God in the future. Instead of returning proudly, the people who will return will 'truly repent' (v.19) and cry out to God along the way. God's guidance will not only not let the people get lost, but will also provide for their needs along the way. The people's relationship with God will be restored, so the priests will receive enough sacrificial meat for food. When the people's relationship with God is restored, they will no longer need to seek idols, but will be content with their material needs, for "ye shall seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

Near Rachel's tomb is Rachel's tomb, where the captives met after the destruction of Jerusalem (40:1), where they may have 'wept bitterly' before they left their homes. Rachel, the mother of Joseph and Benjamin, is a metaphor for Rachel's grave weeping over the exile of Rachel's descendants, but God assures her that "there shall be hope in the end" and that the children of exile "will return to their own borders."

Verses 21–22 are God's affectionate call to "backslidden children." Verses 4, 21, and 22 refer to Israel as a "virgin," and even though the virgin has committed adultery (2:20), God still promises to love her with 'everlasting love' (v.3). 'Women defend men' (v.22), a metaphor for sacrificial love, where women are usually weaker than men, but they stand up and sacrifice themselves to defend men. Mary sacrificed herself, and the virgin gave birth to a child; The sacrifice of the Lord Jesus and his incarnation are all this kind of sacrificial love. 'I woke up and slept soundly' (v.26), referring to the fact that I saw this vision in a dream and was comforted to wake up.

The New Covenant is not a desperate attempt after the failure of the Old Testament, nor is it a repair to the Old Testament, but two steps in God's plan of salvation. God knew that the covenant people "shall be utterly ruined," yet he made a covenant with them, allowing them to trust in the flesh and keep it, and allowing them to indulge in the flesh to break it. For God wants people to admit that after all the failures they have tried, the only way out is to "trust in Jehovah in truth."

All who truly confess their sins and repent will fear God; All who are truly born again will know God. The New Testament does not abolish the Old Covenant, but strengthens and fulfills it. The substance of the covenant has not changed, but its obedience has become more effective.

The laws of the Old Testament were written on stone tablets, from which men were bound; The law of the New Testament, however, was "put in them and written upon their hearts," and therefore, the New Testament was "not a covenant of letters, but a covenant of the Holy Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:6b).

The Old Testament is dependent on man's own life, while the New Testament is dependent on Christ as our life. "Christ is our life" (Col. 3:4), so that when Christ reigned in the hearts of men, the law was "put in them and written on their hearts." "The Lord is the Spirit; Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (2 Corinthians 3:17), free to obey the law of God, no longer bound by the rules of the letter or by outward imitation, but to live in the bondage of the life of Christ, subject to the authority of the Holy Spirit, and worship the King of their hearts, the God of heaven, "in spirit and in truth."

The people of the Old Testament maintained a proper covenant relationship with God by "the priests who stood daily to serve God, and offered the same sacrifice over and over again, which could never take away sin." The people of the New Testament were "sanctified by the offering of his body once for all" by Christ, the eternal High Priest. For "when these sins have been forgiven, there is no more sacrifice for sin" (Heb. 10:18).

Moses was the mediator of the Sinai covenant, but even though he was willing to die in his place, he could only lament that Christ was "the mediator of the new covenant," that those who were called might receive the promised inheritance forever" (Heb. 9:15).

Let's pray together:

Abba Heavenly Father, ask God to give us more grace to cope with the difficulties we are facing and to firmly believe in God's promise and look forward to the day when God will plant us again. Lord, help us to remember and practice your teachings every day so that we are strengthened in your love. May we be able to reflect your love in our lives, forgive those who have hurt us, help those in need, spread your gospel, and be your faithful servants.

Heavenly Father, we pray that Your Holy Spirit will fill our hearts and guide us on the path of righteousness and truth. May your love burn in our hearts so that we can treat others with kindness and trust in you steadfastly no matter how circumstances change. Lord, we pray especially for those who are struggling in distress. May your love touch their hearts and enable them to find hope and peace in their adversity. Comfort the wounded hearts and heal the sick bodies so that they can feel your presence and strength. Heavenly Father, we thank you for every blessing you have given and for your guidance and protection in our lives. May we live in your grace every day and walk your path with thanksgiving.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Jeremiah 31

31:1 And Yahweh said, Then I will be a god to the houses of Israel. They will be my people.

31:2 Thus Yahweh said, "He who has escaped the sword is the Israelite, and he was blessed in the wilderness when We gave him rest."

31:3 In ancient times Jehovah appeared to Israel [as I am], saying, "I love you with eternal love, wherefore I draw you in love."

31:4 O people of Israel, [virgin of the original language] I will establish you again, and you will be established. You will again dance with the beauty of the drums and with the people who love it.

31:5 And they shall plant vineyards in the mountains of Samaria, and they shall enjoy the fruit of which they bear thereof.

31:6 The day will come, and they that watch on Mount Ephraim, will cry out, "Arise, and let us go up to Si'an, to our God of Yahweh."

31:7 Thus saith Yahweh, Sing for the joy of Jacob, for the joy of the congregation of the nations; Preach praise, and say, Yahweh, save the remnant of your people Israel.

31:8 And We will bring them from the north, and gather them from the earth, and with them the blind, the lame, the pregnant, and the wives, and they will come here as a great gang.

31:9 They will come with weeping, and I will guide them according to their desire, so that they may walk in an upright way by the river, and not stumble in it, for I am the father of Israel, and Ephraim my firstborn. 31:10 Listen to the words of the Jews, O nations, and preach to the islands that are far off, saying, "He who scatters Israel will gather him together and keep over him, like a shepherd guarding his flock.

31:11 For Jehovah redeemed Jacob and delivered him from the hand of those who were stronger than him.

31:12 And they will come to the high places of Zion, singing, and return to the land of grace of Jehovah, the land of grain, and new wine, and oil, and lambs, and calves. Their hearts will be like a garden filled with water, and they will no longer have any more troubles.

31:13 Then the virgins will dance with joy, and the young and the old will rejoice together, for I will turn their sorrow into joy and comfort them, and turn their sorrows into pleasure.

31:14 And I will fatten the heart of the priests; and my people will be content with my favor . this is what ye and hua said .

31:15 And Jehohua said this, In Ramah he heard the sound of the trumpet weeping bitterly, and it was Rachel who wept and his sons were not comforted, because they were no longer there.

31:16 Thus Yahweh said, Stop your voice, and do not weep, and your eyes and eyes do not weep, for there will be a reward for your work. they must return from the enemy . this is what ye and hua said .

31:17 And Jehohua said, There is hope for you in the end, and your sons and daughters will return to their own borders.

31:18 And I heard Ephraim lamenting for herself, saying, "If you have punished me, I will be condemned, like a calf that is not accustomed to being burdened, Turn me back, and I will be converted, for you are Yahovah, my God."

31:19 When I was converted, I repented, and after I was taught, I slapped my legs and sighed, and I was ashamed and disgraced because I had borne the reproach of my youth.

31:20 And Yahweah said, Is Ephraim my beloved son, a pleasing child, and I have compassion on him whenever I have rebuked him, and I have compassion on him.

31:21 O people of Israel, [virgin of the original language] Set up for yourselves a signpost and a guiding post, and watch out to the way where you came. You should turn back, turn back to these cities of yours .

31:22 How long will it be for you, backslidden people, to go back and forth? Jerewah created a new thing on the ground, and that was the protection of the man by the woman.

31:23 Thus saith the God of Jehova and Israel of the hosts, When I bring back the captives, they will say again in the land of Judah and in its cities, O dwelling place of righteousness, Holy mountain, may the Lord Howard bless you. 31:24 And Judah will dwell in it, and with all the towns of Judah, and with the peasants and with the shepherds.

31:25 We have satisfied the weary, but the troubled have been content.

31:26 And the prophet said, I have awoken up and have slept soundly. 31:27 And Jehovah said, The day is coming when I will sow the seed of man and the seed of cattle in the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

31:28 As We took care to uproot, to tear them down, to destroy them, to overthrow them, to afflict them, and to build them up, and to plant them. this is what ye and hua said .

31:29 And it shall come to pass in those days that the father has eaten sour grapes, and the son's tooth has been sour;

31:30 But every man will die for his own sins, and every one who sours grapes will have his own teeth sour.

31:31 And Jehovah said, The day is coming, and I will make a new covenant with the Israeli family and the Jews.

31:32 Not like the covenant I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand and led them out of Egypt. though I am their husbands-in-law, they have broken my covenant. this is what ye and hua said .

31:33 And Jehovah said, This is what I have made with the Israeli family in those days. I will lay my law in them and write it in their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 31:34 And every one of them will no longer teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, Know Jehovah. for they shall know me from the least to the greatest. I will forgive their iniquities and remember them no more. this is what ye and hua said .

31:35 Thus is the name of the Lord of hosts, who makes the sun shine by day, and who makes the stars and the moon give a decree, and who makes the night shine, and who stirs up the sea, and who makes the waves of the sea, the Lord of hosts is his name,

31:36 If these statutes are abolished before me, the descendants of Israel will be cut off before me and will never be a nation again. this is what ye and hua said . 31:37 Yahweh thus said, If I could measure the heavens and search the foundations of the earth, I would reject them because of all the work done by the descendants of Israel. this is what ye and hua said .

31:38 And Jehohua said, The day is coming, and this city will be built for Jehovah, from the tower of Hanan to the corner gate.

31:39 And the line shall be measured outward, as far as Mount Kalib, and then to Goa. 31:40 And all the valley where the body was thrown, and the place where the ashes were poured out, and all the fields, as far as the brook Kidron, and as far as the corner of the eastern horse, shall be holy to the Lord Hohua, and shall not be plucked out again, nor shall it be overturned. until ever. Jeremiah 31 is primarily a prophecy of God's grace and mercy to the Jewish people. In this chapter, God appeared to the prophet Jeremiah and told him about the future fate of the Jewish people.

First, God assured Jeremiah that Israel would have a good future despite their expulsion. God says He will re-establish Israel and return them to their homeland, under God's protection. It will be an eternal covenant that God will make come true.

Second, God also showed Jeremiah His love and mercy. He said that he would give a new covenant, no longer just with Israel, but with the people of the whole world. It will be a life of eternal peace, love, and harmony with God.

Finally, God revealed to Jeremiah some of the future fate of the Jews. He will re-elect his people and return them to their homeland. He will work for their tranquility and prosperity and manifest His lovingkindness and mercy in their lives.

Thus, the central idea of this chapter is God's love and mercy for the Jewish people, foreshadowing their future destiny and the New Covenant of peace, love, and harmony with all mankind.

In Jeremiah 31, here are a few important verses and their explanations:

1. Jeremiah 31:3: "The Lord appeared to Israel in old, saying, 'I love you with everlasting love, therefore I draw you with lovingkindness." These are God's words revealed to Jeremiah, showing that God's love for Israel is eternal and based on God's own love and mercy rather than on the actions of the Israelites.

2. Jeremiah 31:13: "Then the virgins will dance and rejoice, and the young and the old will rejoice together." I will turn their sorrow into joy, and I will comfort them, and turn their sorrow into joy. This is God's promise to the Israel, indicating that they will find comfort and joy after their exile.

3. Jeremiah 31:31-34: "This is the covenant I made with the house of Israel in those days: I will put my law in them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. Each of them no longer taught his neighbor or his brother, saying, "Know Jehovah." "For they shall all know me, from the least to the greatest. I will forgive their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more. This is God's promise to Israel that a new covenant will be made with them, no longer with the law as a standard, but with the law written in their hearts, and that God will forgive their sins and reconcile them to God. This passage is also quoted in the book of Hebrews in the New Testament, emphasizing the difference between the New Testament and the Old Testament, as well as salvation and God's love in the Christian faith.

Jeremiah 31 is an important chapter known as "The Promise of the New Testament." This chapter records God's promises to Israel, including future restoration and the establishment of the new covenant. Here are just a few of the important theological central ideas and theological takeaways:

New Testament Promises: In Jeremiah 31, God prophesied the establishment of the New Covenant to the people of Israel. God said He would make a new covenant with them, unlike the Old Testament covenant on Mount Sinai, which was a covenant written on their hearts by God, and God would be their God, and they would be God's people. This prophecy was later confirmed by the New Testament as a New Testament pointing to Jesus Christ and bringing all who believe in Jesus into the family of God. Restoration and reconstruction: In Jeremiah 31, God prophesied that Israel's cities and borders would be rebuilt and that they would once again settle in that land. This demonstrates God's desire for the restoration and restoration of Israel, and God's willingness to re-establish them even though they were once exiled for their sins.

Exhortation to repentance: In Jeremiah 31, God encourages Israel to repent, turn to God, and renounce their sins. God is willing to forgive their sins and bring them back to their homeland. This re-emphasizes how important repentance is to have an intimate relationship with God and to receive His grace.

God's Love and Eternal Love: In Jeremiah 31, God expresses His endless love and eternal love for Israel. Even though the Israelites sinned and were exiled, God did not give up on them, and His love and mercy never changed.

Overall, Jeremiah 31 emphasizes God's promises to Israel, including the establishment of the New Covenant, restoration and reconstruction, the call to repentance, and God's love and eternal love. The central idea of theology is to emphasize God's love and concern for His people and the truth of His plans and promises. This chapter also foreshadows the coming of Jesus Christ, bringing the promises of the New Covenant and God's eternal love to the world.