

**Message #34****Jeremiah 30:1-24**

When Jeremiah was first called to be a prophet, he was informed by God that he would be proclaiming different kinds of messages. Some of the messages would speak of overthrow, breakdown and destruction. Some of the messages would speak of building up and restoring (Jer. 1:10).

In Jeremiah 29, we began to see some encouraging messages. In Jeremiah 29:11 God says to the exiles “I know the plans that I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.”

What wonderful words to hear and in this chapter some of the most positive and powerful promises are made to the people of God. God says I will tell you about some of those wonderful plans I have in store for you in the future.

**Verse 1** says that the word came to Jeremiah from the LORD and God told Jeremiah in **verse 2** to write them all down. Jeremiah was to write down “all” the words which God has spoken.

There are three observations we want to make about God’s word from **verses 1-2**:

- 1) God’s word is inspired by God. The word of God comes from God.
- 2) God’s word is written. The word of God is written in a book.
- 3) God’s word contains “all the words.” The word of God contains the very words of God.

The reason why this is so important here is because God is inspiring words about the future. But since it is inspired by God, and since it has been written down in Scripture, God wants Israel and us to know exactly what will happen.

**GOD MAKES SOME AMAZING FUTURISTIC PROMISES TO HIS PEOPLE THAT BRING THEM GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT AND HOPE.**

God makes these prophetic predictions at a time when Israel was being held captive by the Babylonians. **One critical purpose of Biblical prophecy is to encourage the people of God that there is a bright future ahead.** This is true for Israel and it is also true for us.

Prophecy is not given for apocalyptic speculation, sensation or entertainment purposes. Prophecy is given to encourage the people of God that their future is bright and God controls that future. The next chapters (30-33) deal with positive prophecy that has not yet occurred. The message moves from repentance to restoration.

Before we take a look at this, we want to observe that nowhere in any history have these things been fulfilled completely. There have been moments in Israel’s history when they have experienced some of the things in the list, but there has never been any place in history when they have had all of what is promised here.

So what that means is that these things are yet to occur. Dr. John Walvoord wrote: “This section is a far-reaching prophecy from Jeremiah concerning the ultimate regathering of Israel and the restoration to their land” (*The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook*, p. 138).

From a prophetic standpoint, there will be the Rapture of the Church followed by the Great Tribulation followed by the Second Coming of Jesus Christ followed by the establishment of Christ’s Kingdom that will fulfill everything in this list. There are 19 prophetic promises:

**PROMISE #1** – God will completely restore all of the fortunes for Israel and Judah. **30:2a**

We certainly know that this has not been fulfilled yet because one of the things that would be demanded in a total restoration would be the existence of the Temple in Jerusalem. There will be no Muslim shrine on that property when all fortunes are restored to Israel and Judah.

**PROMISE #2** – God will bring Israel and Judah back to her land to possess it. **30:2b**

Israel has been promised a specific land. She is the only nation in the world that has been promised this. The land boundaries are first stated in Genesis 15:18-21. They are repeated again in several different passages: Gen. 17:8; Ex. 23:31; Ezekiel 47:13-20.

When we look at the dimensions of the land promised to Israel, and we look at what she has possessed in the past and even now, we must conclude that this prophecy has never been fulfilled. Since God is a God of His word, it means that it is yet to be fulfilled.

**PROMISE #3** – God will permit the world to experience the time of Jacob’s trouble that will leave all faces pale. **30:4-7**

Notice in **verse 7** the fulfillment of these promises is closely connected to what is called “the time of Jacob’s distress.” Before these things are all fulfilled, Israel will go through some very dark troubles, but so will the entire world.

We know from Revelation that the time of Jacob’s distress is specifically the last 3 ½ years of the Great Tribulation (Rev. 7:14) in which God is pouring out His wrath on a God-mocking, Christ-rejecting, Bible hating world. This will be a catastrophic event that has never before been seen in history. **Verse 7** says there has never been a time like it.

Notice that when this specifically happens all Israel will be involved. All Jewish people, both Israel and Judah, will participate.

We learn from **verse 5** that just before God fulfills these things, it will be a time of total terror and dread and there will be no peace anywhere in the world.

We learn from **verse 6** that things will be so bad that “all faces” of all people will turn pale. In **verse 6** what is described is the painful process of childbirth. Every man will be in pain and every face will be pale. There will be no relief and no peace.

There is an interesting statement God makes in **verse 6** in which God compares a man to a woman who gives birth. Although the primary point is to emphasize the pain men will be in, it also presents the picture of a time when men are like women. I do not think the transgender movement is a coincidence. It is another indicator we are nearing the end.

God reveals that before I bring Israel back to her land the whole world will experience the Great Tribulation.

This theme is a key theme of the O.T.. There will be a horrible Tribulation the like of which the world has never seen before. It is graphically described in many passages: Jer. 46:10; Is. 2:12-21; 13:6; 34:1-8; Ez. 30:3; Dan. 9:27; 12:1; Joel 1:15; 2:1-5; 2:11; Amos 5:18-20; Micah 1:2-5; Zeph. 1:2-3:8; Zech. 14:1-8, 12-15; Matt. 24-25; Revelation 6-18.

This world will see God pour out His wrath and it will happen before He blesses Israel.

**PROMISE #4** – God will cause His people never to be enslaved to any Gentile power. **30:8**

God promises Israel that there will come a day when she will no longer be enslaved to any Gentile power. This will impact the whole world. Israel will be liberated from ever being dominated by anyone ever again. Israel will be esteemed as the nation of God by all nations of the world.

**PROMISE #5** – God’s people will serve their God. **30:9a**

Never forget this; the God of the Bible is Israel’s God. Instead of Israel serving other nations, she will serve “the LORD their God.” God is the covenant, sovereign God of Israel.

What is so ironic is that had Israel willingly served God in the first place, clear back in the days of Moses, she would not have to look to the future for this to happen. She could have been experiencing all of these blessings now.

But of course she did not serve God, and therefore the Time of Jacob’s Trouble will be used by God to bring her to the point where she longs to serve Him. One day she will.

**PROMISE #6** – God will raise up David to be Israel’s king. **30:9b**

This is a promise that God will raise up David and he will be king of Israel. At the time Jeremiah made this prediction, King David had been dead for nearly 400 years. Some assume that this is not a literal reference to King David, but to Jesus Christ who would come through the Davidic line.

However, we think that this is not only an allusion to Jesus Christ who will reign from the Davidic line, but we also think this refers to David himself.

There are multiple predictions that David, himself, will be raised up to reign over Israel: Jer. 23:1-8; 30:9; Ezekiel 34:23-24; 37:24-25; Hosea 3:5; Amos 9:11

Some commentators say that this just means Jesus will reign who was from the Davidic line. But the language certainly suggests that David himself will also be there.

**PROMISE #7** – God will save all of His people and they will forever be at ease and peace.  
**30:10**

What is clearly established here is that God Himself will save and deliver His Jewish people from all over the world. In fact, He refers to the Jewish people as “Jacob My servant.”

He will gather them and bring them to their land where they will enjoy a life of quiet and ease and complete security. In fact, “no one will make him afraid.”

When we listen to the news coming out of Israel, we certainly see that life there now is not one of quiet and ease. There is tension and people are afraid that bombs will destroy them. God says the future for Israel is bright.

**PROMISE #8** – God will completely destroy all godless nations but will not completely destroy His people. **30:11a**

This is a promise that God will totally and completely destroy all the nations of the world where His Jewish people have lived. But at the same time He is doing that, He will not completely destroy His own people. During the Tribulation the Antichrist will try to exterminate all Jews. Two-thirds will die; one-third will live (Zech. 13:8). This is a great hope for people who love the Lord. Even when God is doing horrible things to their neighbors, He can protect His faithful people.

**PROMISE #9** – God does chasten His people with just punishment. **30:11b-15**

Everything God does is just. God says I have permitted My people to be chastised because I cannot overlook their evil. What Israel has done in regard to God has been evil. She worshipped other gods and she killed God’s only begotten Son. What Israel had done is serious. God wanted His people to know that.

That is why God did the things He did to Israel. That is why she is not blessed right now. God does punish and God does wound His own people.

**PROMISE #10** – God will completely destroy all of His people’s enemies. **30:16**

God wants His own people to know but eventually I will destroy all enemies of My people. God says My people will see Me reverse everything. Those who devoured them will be devoured. Those who plundered them will be plundered. Those who preyed on them will become prey.

**PROMISE #11** – God will completely restore and heal His people. **30:17**

God says even though you have been inflicted, I am the great healer who will cure you. Apparently one of the things that prompt God to do this is the arrogance of the nations who mock Israel and treat Israel as some outcast.

**PROMISE #12** – God will completely restore the fortunes and structures. **30:18**

Look carefully at this verse. God promises He will restore fortunes. The city of Jerusalem will be rebuilt and “the palace will stand on its rightful place.” That Temple will be rebuilt and there will be no other structure anywhere on the property. The demonic Dome of the Rock Muslim shrine will be gone.

**PROMISE #13** – God will cause thanksgiving and praise to come from His people. **30:19a**

From the people of Israel will precede thanksgiving and the voice of celebration for all God has done. There will no longer be sounds of wailing and lamenting, but thanksgiving and rejoicing.

**PROMISE #14** – God will multiply and honor His people. **30:19b**

Israel will be respected and honored by all nations in the world. She will be the most prestigious and significant nation in the world.

**PROMISE #15** – God will establish His family. **30:20a**

The nation Israel will be a congregation before God established by Him. Notice the reference to “their children,” which means this was futuristic. The present group would not see this, but their relatives will.

**PROMISE #16** – God will punish all oppressors. **30:20b**

What most people do not realize about Israel is that if you do something against Israel, God keeps the record. In fact, Zechariah says, “For thus says the LORD of hosts, after glory He has sent Me against the nations which plunder you, **for he who touches you, touches the apple of His eye**” (**Zech. 2:8**).

God keeps records of those who demean Israel and He will pay them all back.

**PROMISE #17** – God will appoint a leader from among His own people who will be able to approach Him. **30:21**

It is predicted that there will be a Messianic Priest/King who will come forth from among the midst of the Jewish people who would dare approach God without fear of losing life. He will literally be there in Person to live with the people.

When Israel was a nation worshipping God, only a priest could enter the holy of holies once a year on the Day of Atonement and offer a blood sacrifice for the sins of the people (Lev. 16). Any person who entered the presence of God without authorization risked being executed (Ex. 28:34-35).

When this kingdom is established, One will be in the scene who will be a King/Priest who can approach God and that One will be Jesus Christ. He will be here in Person, ruling over Israel.

**PROMISE #18** – God will be their God and they will be His people. **30:22**

**Verse 22** describes the ultimate relationship between God and Israel.

**PROMISE #19** – God is in complete control of everything and He will not turn from His plan until everything is accomplished. **30:23-24**

These two verses bring to a conclusion the chapter. God says My wrath will go forth and I will fulfill everything I have said I will fulfill. God wants people to realize that once He starts the Great Tribulation, He will not stop it or let up until everything is fulfilled.

It will come about “in the latter days.”

God’s word is inspired.

God’s word is written.

God’s word will be fulfilled.