

Jeremiah 31:3
LOVED WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE

- I. Present despair.
 - A. Context: the nation of Judah is falling apart spiritually, economically, and as a nation. Babylon is attacking.
 - 1. God here declares certain judgment/vengeance on the wicked, though in the last days (30:24b).
 - 2. The righteous are not to despair, but are to embrace and rely on God's promises.
 - B. "I will be your God and ye shall be my people" (30:22 and 31:1) is the language of the covenant.
 - C. Thus there is no reason be fear that God would forsake His people.
 - D. But God's people, sinners they still are, still complain about the present, in spite God's promises and past deliverances.
- II. God answers their doubts about His relationship.
 - A. God's past deliverances were not a momentary impulse, for His relationship with them is continual, perpetual, and eternal.
 - 1. It was not only of old or of a good while ago, but it is from all eternity.
 - 2. It is from eternity, which means that it is from the eternal choice of the persons loved in Christ.
 - B. It is from eternity and into eternity is because this love is like God Himself, sovereign, unchangeable and eternal.
 - C. The object of God's love is "thee," i.e., the "Israel" of God (1).
- III. A confirmation follows: "therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."
 - A. This implies that His eternal love is the cause of their redemption.
 - B. It was His perpetual love which drew them out of Egypt, fed them for forty years in the desert, and brought them in Canaan.
 - C. Let us not doubt that God is today also giving salvation to all His people, for He remains ever the same, never changing.
 - D. Let us go into the future too, saying that God will prolong/extend His toward us.