

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!
NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 3/21-22/2021
THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Jeremiah Chapters 31*

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS112, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).
THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER – Introduction

Jeremiah Chapter 31b "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore, with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

THE LOVE OF GOD - Frederick Lehman – Phelps, Penrod & Gardner (4:24)

*The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star And reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled, And pardoned from his sin.*

Refrain:

*Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure— The saints' and angels' song.*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Though stretched from sky to sky. (Refrain)*

THIS WEEK'S STUDY:

Chap. 31 – The Remnant of Israel Saved (vs. 1-14); Mercy on Ephraim; (vs. 15-22); Future Prosperity of Judah (vs. 23-30); A New Covenant (vs. 31-40)

The Lord Will Turn Mourning to Joy

Jer 31:1 "At the same time," says the LORD, "I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people."

- ***At the same time!*** That is, the latter days, which ended the last chapter, when the earth has been judged, by this fiery indignation of God's wrath, that will devour His adversaries.
- ***I will be the God of all the families of Israel:*** We're told of the great turning to God and His Messiah in the last days. In (***Romans 11:26a***) ***And so all Israel will be saved.*** The families of good people, in their family capacity, may apply to God and stay focused upon Him as their God. If we and our houses serve the Lord, we and our houses shall be protected and blessed by him.

Jer 31:2 Thus says the LORD: "The people who survived the sword Found grace in the wilderness Israel, when I went to give him rest." Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

- ***The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness:*** Probably referring to the 40 years wilderness march, following the exodus from Egypt. Also looking forward to the persecution of the Jewish people during the Great Tribulation. Today, as then, those who are His can look forward "in their times of wilderness" to receiving God's grace and mercy through their Savior, Jesus Christ!
- ***When we are brought very low, and huge difficulties appear in the way, it is important to remember*** that it has been the case so often throughout the history of the church. It has been raised up from its low estate, has gotten to Canaan through all the hardships of a wilderness; and God is still the same.

Jer 31:3 The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: Deu 4:37 And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them; and He brought you out of Egypt with His Presence, with His mighty power,

"Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Isa 43:4 Since you were precious in My sight, You have been honored, And I have loved you; Therefore I will give men for you, And people for your life. Rom 11:28 Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.

Therefore with lovingkindness (chesed - faithfulness, unfailing care) I have drawn you. Hos 11:4 I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them.

- ***The Lord has appeared of old to me:*** God gives us the context of these words, coming from His divine appearance, established in eternity *of old*.
- ***Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love:*** God declares His love for *Israel*. He has loved them with an *everlasting love*. Established in the past. Extended to the future eternity. They have been disobedient, they have been rebellious, and yet God's *love* for them has not changed.
- ***In this God also loves you, with an everlasting love, and with lovingkindness He drew you,*** He chose you, and He drew you unto Himself. Jesus said, "No man knows the Father, except the Son, whom the Father has sent, and to Him, to whom the Son will reveal". He speaks about you not being able to come, unless you be drawn. But because God does *love* you, He has *drawn you*, by His *love*, unto Himself. If you are a *child* of God, if you are a Christian, right now, rejoice! Because you are a Christian, because God loved you, and drew you unto Himself! The magnet of the gospel is not fear, but love. Believers are *drawn* to Christ, rather than driven!

Jer 31:4 Again I will build you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! You shall again be adorned with your tambourines, And shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice.

Jer 31:5 You shall yet plant vines on the mountains of Samaria (currently, west bank territory); The planters shall plant and eat them as ordinary food.

- ***God will again form them into a people and give them*** a very joyful settlement in their own land. They shall have the liberty and the opportunity to worship God in His ordinances of His own appointment, having both invitations and inclinations to do so!

Jer 31:6 For there shall be a day When the watchmen will cry on Mount Ephraim (also west bank territory), 'Arise, and let us go up to Zion, To the LORD our God.' "

- ***Notice that the watchmen of Mount Ephraim are then going to promote the worship of God at Jerusalem,*** whereas formerly there was hatred against the temple and those worshipping there. God can make those who have been His enemies in the true worship of God to become encouragers of them and leaders in them. This promise is to have its full accomplishment in the latter days of the Messiah, when the gospel should be preached to all these countries.
- ***Arise, and let us go up to Zion, To the LORD our God!*** Jesus is going to come again! He is going to reign. His throne will be on Mount *Zion*, in Jerusalem, and thus there in the territories, which are now east bank, which will again be completely occupied by *Israel*.

Jer 31:7 For thus says the LORD: "Sing with gladness for Jacob, And shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O LORD, save Your people, The remnant of Israel!'"

- ***Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations:*** Thus, we are to pray for their salvation! That God shall have the glory and the honor and comfort of this blessed change. ***Sing with gladness for Jacob,*** meaning, let all her friends and well-wishers rejoice with her. The restoration of Jacob will be noticed by all of Israel's neighbors. It will be matter of joy to them all, and they shall all join with Jacob in his joys, paying him respect and putting a reputation upon him.
- ***Proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O LORD, save Your people.*** Make perfect their salvation, go on to save *the remnant of Israel*, that are still in bondage. When we are praising God for what He has done we must call upon Him for the future blessings, praying to Him, really praising Him and giving Him glory.

Jer 31:8 Behold, I will bring them from the north country, And gather them from the ends of the earth, Among them the blind and the lame, The woman with child And the one who labors with child, together; A great throng shall return there.

- ***Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the ends of the earth,*** One example is that of Russia. During the last few decades, the doors have been more open for the Jews to leave Russia. They have left by the thousands, coming to *Israel*, and many of them to the United States.
- ***The woman with child And the one who labors with child, together; A great throng shall return there.*** The Jews point to this scripture and make it apply to the recent time, when the Ethiopian Jews, were going through heavy persecution, about thirty years ago. The Jewish government took their 747 transports from Eilat. They removed all the seats and began to fly to Ethiopia to rescue the Jews that were experiencing the persecution. In a 48-hour period, they brought 14,000 Jews from Ethiopia to *Israel*. Without seats, they filled these planes with 1,200 people per 747. During the flights bringing the people from Ethiopia, fourteen babies were born! Many point to this passage!

- **May 14, 1948** - A great miracle happened *Israel* was once again established as a Jewish state in their ancient land. As wonderful and miraculous as that was, it does not yet fulfill the glory of this promise. *Israel* is now gathered in unbelief. This will only be completely fulfilled when *Israel* comes to faith in the **LORD** and *His Messiah*.

Jer 31:9 *They shall come with weeping, And with supplications I will lead them. I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters, In a straight way in which they shall not stumble; For I am a Father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn. Zec 12:10* *And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

- **They shall come with weeping:** In this great restoration of *the latter days*, *Israel* will return to the **LORD** and *His Messiah* *with weeping and supplications*.
- **Ephraim is My firstborn:** *Ephraim* here represents *Israel* as a whole. He was not physically the *firstborn*, but we see here God regarding him as *firstborn*, being the prominent or pre-eminent one! *Ephraim* was the most prominent one that was born. Whenever God gives His people a clear call, He will either find them or make them a ready way; and while we are following Him, we may be sure that He will not withhold any good thing from us.

Jer 31:10 *"Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, And declare it in the isles afar off, and say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, And keep him as a shepherd does his flock.'*

- **God is going to gather them.** He *scattered* them because of their sin, but He will *gather* them, as a shepherd gathers his flock. When He has gathered him into one body, one fold, He will keep him, as a shepherd does his flock, from being scattered again.

Jer 31:11 *For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, And ransomed him from the hand of one stronger than he.*

- **Redeemed...ransomed:** **How He has done that for every believer!** He has *redeemed* and *ransomed* us from sin and from the strong man, Satan! The Lord is stronger than all!

Jer 31:12 *Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, Streaming to the goodness of the LORD For wheat and new wine and oil, For the young of the flock and the herd; Their souls shall be like a well-watered garden, And they shall sorrow no more at all. Eze 17:22-23* *Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will take also one of the highest branches of the high cedar and set it out. I will crop off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and will plant it on a high and prominent mountain. [23] On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it; and it will bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a majestic cedar. Under it will dwell birds of every sort; in the shadow of its branches they will dwell.*

- **The Kingdom Age, as they come, and they sing in the heights of Zion.** Flowing together to the goodness of the Lord. The land will produce abundantly *wheat*, and the olive trees with their *oil, the new wine*, the grapes, *the flocks, the herds*, and *their souls* will be refreshed, *like a well-watered garden*, not to sorrow any more at all. *Jeremiah* pictured a restored, gathered *Israel* streaming into Jerusalem. They would be rich with the abundance of God's provision both materially and spiritually - *their souls shall be like a well-watered garden*.

Jer 31:13 *"Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, And the young men and the old, together; For I will turn their mourning to joy, Will comfort them, And make them rejoice rather than sorrow.*

- **I will turn their mourning to joy:** God will turn their mourning into joy, their fasts into solemn feasts! It was in the return out of Babylon that those who sowed in tears were made to reap in joy, (*Psa 126:5*) *Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy. They would be rejoicing together, all having God's comfort!*

Jer 31:14 *I will satiate (fully, excessively satisfy) the soul of the priests with abundance, And My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, says the LORD."*

- **I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance:** God just wants to *satisfiate* your life with *His goodness* and His love. He's like a doting grandfather. He just wants to do all kinds of good things for you. He delights in you. He speaks here, just *satisfiating* their souls with *My goodness*. The people were so blessed, reflecting the productivity of the land, resulting in the priest being satiated with abundance! .
- **My people shall be satisfied with My goodness.** Oh, the glorious day of the Lord! Our lives just filled to overflowing! How *satiated* are you? Am I? Are we gratefully recognizing His goodness to us?

Jer 31:15 Thus says the LORD: "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more."

- **Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more.** Rachel, the mother of Joseph and Benjamin is pictured here as weeping for her lost children, already taken or soon to be taken captive or killed by Babylon. (*Jer 10:20*) *My tent is plundered, And all my cords are broken; My children have gone from me, And they are no more. There is no one to pitch my tent anymore, Or set up my curtains.* (re coming captivity of Judah).
- **We're reminded of the account in Matthew, whereby King Herod in his jealous rage** against a competitor for his throne had all the male children two years old and younger, to be killed in Bethlehem, when Christ was born, about 590 years after this prophecy. (*Mat 2:17-18*) *Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: [18] "A VOICE WAS HEARD IN RAMAH, LAMENTATION, WEEPING, AND GREAT MOURNING, RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN, REFUSING TO BE COMFORTED, BECAUSE THEY ARE NO MORE."*

Jer 31:16 Thus says the LORD: "Refrain your voice from weeping, And your eyes from tears; For your work shall be rewarded, says the LORD, And they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

Jer 31:17 There is hope in your future, says the LORD, That your children shall come back to their own border.

- **Refrain your voice from weeping...your work shall be rewarded...they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope in your future, says the LORD, That your children shall come back!** Notice the prophecy here does not end in tragedy as in the Matthew account, but rather is so encouraging especially, considering the hopeless situation in Jerusalem, when this word was given to Jeremiah!
- **There is hope in your future! This also has application to every believer!** We have the living *hope* in Christ Jesus! (*1Pe 1:3-4*) *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,*
- **For your work shall be rewarded:** God's comfort to *Rachel* had substance! She is being assured of comfort because of God's promise of restoration of Israel. Her *children* would **come back from the land of the enemy, giving hope in your future!** Does this not apply to us, today, to the prodigals who are out there?

Jer 31:18 "I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself: 'You have chastised me, and I was chastised, Like an untrained bull (unaccustomed to the yoke); Restore me, and I will return, For You are the LORD my God.

- **I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself: You have chastised me, and I was chastised:** Here is *Ephraim*, who has rebelled against the Lord, who has gone their own way in disobedience. But now they are saying, "Oh Lord, *you chastised us*. Put your yoke upon us again, and you turn us, and we will be turned". They are volunteering now to submit to God.
- **How we need to just take His yoke, and submit to His leading, and to His guidance.** What a glorious thing it is to have our lives directed by God. Ephraim continues, *Restore me, and I will return, For You are the LORD my God.*

Jer 31:19 Surely, after my turning, I repented; And after I was instructed, I struck myself on the thigh; I was ashamed, yes, even humiliated, Because I bore the reproach of my youth.' (Eze 21:12) "Cry and wail, son of man; For it will be against My people, Against all the princes of Israel. Terrors including the sword will be against My people; Therefore strike your thigh.

- **After my turning, I repented: Ephraim** is responding, now, understanding that their behavior had to change and that their disobedience to God had to end. They needed repentance!
- **Demonstrating humility, repentance and shame, we see Ephraim was greatly impacted!** He even demonstrates the usual sign of deep affliction, among the Jews, by striking himself on the *thigh!*

Jer 31:20 Is Ephraim My dear son? Is he a pleasant child? For though I spoke against him, I earnestly remember him still; Therefore My heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him, says the LORD. Luk 15:20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. (The prodigal son)

- **Is Ephraim My dear son:** In a similar way to how we love our children, even when they are naughty, we cannot speak their name without wonderful memories. We too, would say, even as the father in the story of

the prodigal *son*, embracing his wayward *son*. *My heart yearns for him*: This is the *everlasting love* and the *lovingkindness* spoken of in verse three, earlier in the chapter.

Jer 31:21 "Set up signposts, Make landmarks; Set your heart toward the highway, The way in which you went. Turn back, O virgin of Israel, Turn back to these your cities.

- ***Jeremiah now addresses the returning exiles of the northern kingdom, as well.*** They are to make ample preparation for their homeward journey. The Lord is saying set the *landmarks* so that they can find their way back. They've strayed a long way, but set up the *landmarks*, so that they can find their way back to Me. God is always interested in your returning. Even in backsliding, as did *Ephraim*. They have forsaken God, but now God is speaking of their return, and of His receiving Him. Some of us may have turned from the things of God, but God is saying, *Set up signposts* so they can find their way *back*. God is always seeking to draw you *back* unto Himself, into that relationship that you once knew and experienced with Him.

Jer 31:22 How long will you gad about, O you backsliding daughter? For the LORD has created a new thing in the earth—A woman shall encompass (surround, encircle) a man."

- ***Many good interpreters understand this new thing*** created in that land, to be the incarnation of Christ, which God eyed in bringing them back to that land, and which had sometimes been given them for a sign, *Isa 7:14; Isa 9:6*. A *woman*, the virgin Mary, enclosed in her womb *the Mighty One*; for so *Geber*, the word here used, signifies; and God is called *Gibbor, the Mighty God, Jer 32:18*, as also is Christ in *Isa 9:6*, where His incarnation is spoken of, as it is supposed to be here. He is *El-Gibbor, the mighty God*. Let this assure them that God would not cast off this people, for that blessing was to be among them, *Isa 65:8*.

Jer 31:23 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "They shall again use this speech (debar – a cause, an act) in the land of Judah and in its cities, when I bring back their captivity:

- ***They shall again use this speech.*** When they returned from their Babylonian captivity, they spoke the Chaldean language, rather than Hebrew, which only the Jewish scholars knew. The Jews themselves had lost their language. When the modern nation of *Israel* was born, it was determined that Hebrew would be the language of the land. They began to teach Hebrew again and today it is as the scripture here prophesied. What a day that will be!
- ***The Lord bless you, O home of justice, and mountain of holiness:*** The main message in this verse is that at the coming day when the Jews returned to Zion, they would again speak that great blessing statement - *'The LORD bless you, O home of justice, and mountain of holiness.* Because of Israel's idolatry and immorality, she had been anything but the *home of justice and mountain of holiness*, but it will be dramatically transformed when Jesus the Christ, governs the city and in fact the whole world!

Jer 31:24 And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all its cities together, farmers and those going out with flocks.

- ***It's interesting that Israel's agriculture is one of their major exports and sources of currency and wealth.*** They are the fourth largest exporter of fruit, of all the nations in the world, and yet, the nation of *Israel* is about the size of New Jersey. Indeed, it has been restored in both the city and the country.

Jer 31:25 For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul."

- ***For I have satiated*** (fully, excessively satisfied) *the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul*: All the thought of what God is going to do for His people. The future that is in store for the people of God. It was just sweet for *Jeremiah* to see and think upon these things!

Jer 31:26 After this I awoke and looked around, and my sleep was sweet to me.

- ***I awoke and looked around:*** It seems that the previous prophecy came to Jeremiah, in a dream, as he *slept sweetly!* Indeed, *sweet* dreams!

Jer 31:27 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and the seed of beast.

- ***I will sow the house of Israel:*** In restoring Israel, God promised to bless and restore the people, multiplying both their *children* and their livestock. They are going to be fruitful! There will be a population explosion

Jer 31:28 And it shall come to pass, that as I have watched over them to pluck up, to break down, to throw down, to destroy, and to afflict, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD.

- ***I will watch over them to build and to plant:*** In chapter 1, when God called *Jeremiah* into his prophetic ministry, this is the very thing that God spoke to him about, to actually *pluck up* and to tear *down* and so forth. Then *to build and to plant*. So, here God said, *"Even as I have watched over them* for these purposes, so will I watch over them now *to build*. The time has come *to build and to plant*.

Jer 31:29 In those days they shall say no more: 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, And the children's teeth are set on edge.'

- **In these days of the Lord reigning, there will be no more cause to blame their fathers for their calamities** that have come upon them. Each man will be responsible himself, before the Lord, and will answer for himself. And that's exactly what *Jeremiah*, and *Ezekiel 18:1-3*, say! The feeling may have been widespread that the nation was being punished for the sins of past generations and that the LORD was unjust.

Jer 31:30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity; every man who eats the sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge.

- ***But every man shall die for his own iniquity:*** No blame shifting! You're responsible to God for what you are! You can't blame someone else. You are what you are. Now, you may be the byproduct of a bad home environment, you may have a lot of problems in your childhood, growing up, and yet God holds you responsible for what you do and what you are. Because God has promised to take away that bad background. To give you a whole new life, in Christ Jesus. You no longer will be able to use the problem of your past, or anything else, when Christ is pre-eminent in your life! (2Co 5:17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

The New Covenant

Jer 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— Heb 8:13 In that He says, "A NEW COVENANT," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Heb 9:15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Heb 10:16-17 "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR HEARTS, AND IN THEIR MINDS I WILL WRITE THEM," [17] then He adds, "THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE."

Heb 12:24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

- ***Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord:*** Jesus said that He was making a ***New Covenant*** with His disciples. He said, "This cup is a ***new covenant*** in My blood which is shed for the remission of sins". God is promising this ***covenant*** with the house of Judah and the house of ***Israel***.
- ***I will make a new covenant:*** God announced through Jeremiah, that at a time future, God would ***make a new covenant***. It would be made with Israel. It would be ***not according to the covenant*** that God made with ***Israel*** on Mt. Sinai, shortly after the exodus from Egypt..

Jer 31:32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

- ***The Old Covenant:*** Now when God brought the nation of ***Israel*** out of ***Egypt***, when they came into the wilderness, the area of Mount Sinai, Moses went up on the mount, and received the Ten Commandments. God gave to Moses the ordinances and the law for the people. The Lord said, "And if you will keep these statutes, and obey these commandments, then I will be your God, and you shall be My people." So, their relationship with God was predicated on their obedience to the commandments of God. But as ***Jeremiah*** testifies, they broke the commandments. They didn't keep the statutes, and thus their relationship with God was broken.
- ***The New Covenant:*** Now, God wants to bring you into a relationship with Him. But the relationship is not based upon the Old ***covenant*** of the law. The reason the first ***covenant*** failed was that it was predicated upon man's obedience to the commandments of God. Man's spirit may be willing, but his flesh is weak. Thus, man failed, and thus the ***covenant*** was broken. So, God has established a ***New Covenant***, one based on Jesus Christ, and the blood of Jesus Christ, that was shed for your sins. He took this cup and He said, "This cup is a ***New Covenant***, in My blood, which is shed for the remission of sins". So now, your relationship with God is predicated now upon your faith in Jesus Christ, that He died for your sin. Thus, your sins which separate men from God have been removed as the result of your believing in Jesus Christ.
- ***God now accounts you righteous!*** He doesn't account you as a sinner, but righteous through your faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who gave His life for your sins. Therefore, your relationship with God, is on the basis of this ***New Covenant***, through Jesus Christ, and His work in dying for your sins. The ***New Covenant*** will stand because it's not predicated upon my works, but on my faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ. It's His work, and my trusting and believing in that work of Jesus Christ, for me. I've established now this relationship with God. I am established in this relationship with God.

Jer 31:33 *But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: Luk 22:20 Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. 2Co 3:6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.*

I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Psa 40:8 *I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart."*

Jer 24:7 *Then I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the LORD; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole heart. Jer 30:22* *You shall be My people, And I will be your God.'*

- **This New Covenant, God writes His laws or, right in my heart!** He changes my heart. He changes my desires. Now that makes you sort of an anomaly to the world. They don't understand you. They don't understand the new desires that you have. your love for the Lord. the things that are in your heart, why you want to go to church; the desires that are in your heart. Where did that come from God's written His law right in your heart. This **New Covenant** is God is taking control of our lives, changing our desires. The old things are passed away, and everything has become new. New loves, new interests, new desires. The desires for the word of God, and the things of God, and fellowship with the people of God. It's this glorious **New Covenant!** "It's right there in my heart! That's what I want to do! That's what I delight to do!"
- **I will be their God, and they shall be My people:** We and Israel are given a new relationship with God through the New Covenant. It will personal and intimate, much different than that, which they had before under the Old Covenant.

Jer 31:34 *No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*

- **They all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.** Note this relationship with God had a personal aspect - **they all shall know Me.** We note the significance of the New Covenant involving a one-to-relationship, rather than to the whole of mankind. The New Covenant was not just to all believing mankind; but to all the house of Israel, all the family of God, all the children of God being taught by Him; not all alike, but all with the same kind of knowledge, being frequently applied to the times of the Messiah by the Jews.
- **I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more:** God has blotted out your sin, your past, all of the transgressions. He has blotted them out! "*There is therefore now no condemnation to those that are in Christ Jesus.*" What a glorious experience! God has wiped out that old slate, that was marred by our sins. He has given us a new life, a new beginning in Christ.

Jer 31:35 *Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name):*

- **Should the land, "Land for Peace", be divided? Should there be a Palestinian state established within the land of Israel?** These are the things that the world is arguing over. The United States is pressuring Israel to concede to these demands. Is God's ordinance flexible? Is it changeable? May it be that God will just say, "Well let's just divide the land, and then we'll have peace." We see here what the Lord says about "land for peace!"
- **Thus, says the Lord: If the sun doesn't come up tomorrow,** then it could be that things are going to change! If the **stars** quit shining and the **moon** doesn't shine. If you go out tonight and the **moon** and **the stars** are not there. If they've ceased to shine, and the **sun** doesn't come up tomorrow, then God says, but as long as the **sun** shines, as long as **the stars** are in the sky, God's ordinance has been established with the nation of **Israel.** They shall never cease from being God's people, or a people before God! A nation before Him, forever!

Jer 31:36 *"If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the LORD, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever."*

- **The message from God is both powerful and plain.** God will stop thinking of and dealing with **Israel** as a **nation** when the **sun, moon, and stars** stop giving light and when the sea stops **roaring.** As long as those things continue, God will regard **Israel** as a nation **before Him forever.**

Jer 31:37 *Thus says the LORD: "If heaven above can be measured, And the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel For all that they have done, says the LORD.*

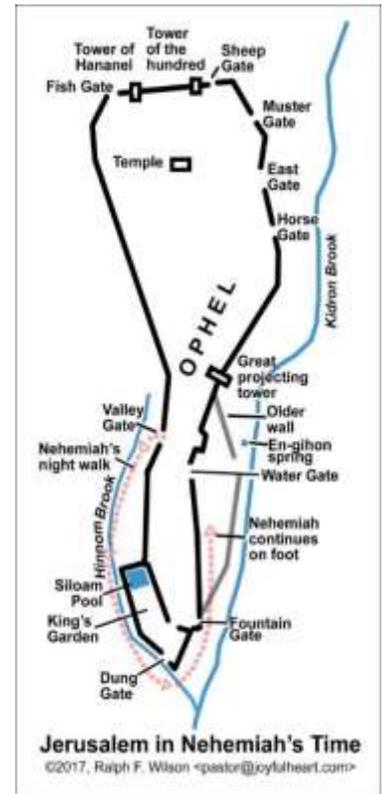
- *If heaven above can be measured, And the foundations of the earth searched out beneath.* To further emphasize, God elaborates on the permanence of the Jewish people in His plan for the ages. In that it is impossible *to measure the heavens or search out the foundations of the earth*, God will never *cast off the seed of Israel – for all that they have done*. It would be difficult to conceive for this principle to be given in any stronger way. Israel has an enduring role in God’s plan of the ages!

Jer 31:38 *"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that the city shall be built for the LORD—from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate.*

Jer 31:39 *The surveyor's line shall again extend straight forward over the hill Gareb; then it shall turn toward Goath.*

Jer 31:40 *And the whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the Brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the LORD. It shall not be plucked up or thrown down anymore forever."*

- **Behold, the days are coming!** Here in these last three verses, we are given the new *city* limits of Jerusalem. It’s interesting that the *city* limits of Jerusalem now appear to have extended to these points of reference, given here in **Jeremiah**. Yet they are going to flee Jerusalem, when the Anti-Christ is revealed for who he is, and then, when they are brought back, when in the glorious Kingdom Age, Christ returns. **Jeremiah** sees here the fulfillments, which it seems that we are on the verge of seeing!
- **The city shall be built for the Lord:** We are now given the revelation that the capital, Jerusalem, will be rebuilt and expanded, with the temple mount being in the same location — yes, the very *city* that **Jeremiah**, would soon see destroyed by the Babylonian army. The whole *city shall be holy to the Lord*.
- **It shall not be plucked up or thrown down anymore forever:** The restoration promised to Israel extends to the city of Jerusalem itself. It is to be *permanent*, never to be *thrown down, anymore forever!*



Review of Verses 3 & 31:

Jer 31:3 *The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.*

- **Joh 15:13** *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.*
- **What love! Just think of that!** May we praise Him and be ever grateful to Him!

Jer 31:31 *"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—*

- **Luk 22:20** *Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.*
- **Joh 1:12-13** *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: [13] who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*
- **Joh 3:16** *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*
- **1Jn 5:13** *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*
- **1Jn 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*
- **Jer 31:33-34** *But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. [34] No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*

Closing Prayer