

Study of Jeremiah 31

Jer 31:1 *At the same time, saith YHWH, will I be the Elohim of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.*

At the same time = the age to come, the millennium. This is a continuation of thought of chapter 30. Yahweh will be the Elohim of ALL the families of Israel, not just Judah.

Jer 31:2 *Thus saith YHWH, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest.*

The remnant of Israel of both houses, Israel and Judah are in view here.

Jer 31:3 *YHWH hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.*

Jer 31:4 *Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.*

Yahweh does the building, not man.

Jer 31:5 *Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria: the planters shall plant, and shall eat them as common things.*

Refers to the Northern kingdom of the house of Israel whose capitol was Samaria. They will return to their ancient homeland which they haven't dwelt in for over 2700 years now.

Jer 31:6 *For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto YHWH our Elohim.*

"watchmen" is the Hebrew word Natzrim from the root word natsar. It is the same root word for Nazareth. Yahshua was called a Nazarene. Christians in Israel are called Natzrim. It means to keep safe. Yahweh has hidden Ephraim Israel in all the nations for safe keeping. They think they are gentiles. In Isa. 49:6 natzrim is translated as the "preserved of Israel". This is where it speaks of Yahshua that it is a light thing to raise up and restore the "natzrim" of Israel to their land. See also Isa. 66:20 where Israel is brought back to Zion as an offering in a clean vessel to Yahweh. These are the Christians who don't know that they are Israel.

Natzar is used only 3 times in the scriptures and each time refers to Ephraim.

Jer 31:7 *For thus saith YHWH; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O YHWH, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.*

His people are the remnant of Israel. Where are they today? See verse 8 below. Isaiah said in the latter days they would be NW of Palestine, which is Western Europe. Isaiah 49:12

Jer 31:8 *Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither.*

The coasts of the earth refer to places far away, like North America. They will be brought on litters. Isa. 66:20 - a great company shall return from there. They can't return from somewhere they never were. The Jews will return along with Israel. The Jews are there first to prepare the land for the great influx that is soon to come. (Jer 16:14) (Zech 10:10 - returning Israelites will fill the land of Gilead)

Jer 31:9 *They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.*

They shall come weeping -saying our fathers have inherited lies. Jer. 16:19. Jer. 50:4 **Ephraim is Yahweh's firstborn, that is he holds the birthright.** Heb.12:23; Gen 48:18

Jer 31:10 *Hear the word of YHWH, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.*

The isles afar off refer to Ephraim. This speaks of the day of Jezreel which means Yahweh sows. What he sowed into the nations, He will re-gather. Hos. 2:23; Jer. 33:7; Jer. 16:16 Ephraim will be re-gathered by Yahweh Yahshua.

Jer 31:11 *For YHWH hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. (From the hand of Satan)*

Jer 31:12 *Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of YHWH, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all. (both houses of Israel in the millennium.)*

Jer 31:13 *Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow. (This is the virgin bride of Yahshua).*

Jer 31:14 *And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith YHWH.*

Jer 31:15 *Thus saith YHWH; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.*

Leah was the mother of Judah, not Rachel. Nevertheless, she weeps for both Joseph and Benjamin, her sons. Her weeping is for all of Israel. See also Mt 2:16-18. Quoted by Matthew when Herod was killing all the male children under 2 years of age. Not sure the interpretation was properly applied there though or I'm missing something.

Jer 31:16 *Thus saith YHWH; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith YHWH; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.*

Jer 31:17 *And there is hope in thine end, saith YHWH, that thy children shall come again to their own border.*

They shall come into their own land again. This is speaking of the house of Joseph (Ephraim Israel). They will come back into their land according to their tribal heritages. Deut. 30:2-5. This has not happened in over 2700 years and is still future. These are what the world calls gentiles which are really Israelites who have forgotten their identity.

Jer 31:18 *I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art YHWH my Elohim.*

Bullock is aegel, the symbol and tribal banner of Ephraim. Aegel and Angle are names for Ephraim, as in Anglo-Saxon, the Angles and Saxons (Isaac's sons). Also John Bull is a name for the English.

Jer 31:19 *Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.*

Ephraim was "instructed" after repenting for turning away from Torah in his youth. He is amazed at his own blindness. Can't we all identify with this?

Ephraim is shocked because he had thought he was an upright man until it was pointed out that he was really still doing many pagan things. So this narrows our identification of Ephraim to apparent "Gentiles" who see themselves as obeying "God", yet don't realize that even that name had its origins in paganism.

Jer 31:20 *Is Ephraim my dear son? is he a pleasant child? for since I spake against him, I do earnestly remember him still: therefore my bowels are troubled for him; I will surely have mercy upon him, saith YHWH.*

Jer 31:21 *Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps: set thine heart toward the highway, even the way which thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities.*

Set up way marks in the way that they went so they would know how to return. These are dolmens that are all over Europe that were set up by migrating Ephraim. The high heaps are "tamrurim". It is used of modern traffic signs in Israel today. These are all 12 tribes of verse 1.

Jer 31:22 *How long wilt thou go about, O thou backsliding daughter? for YHWH hath created a new thing in the earth, A woman shall compass a man.*

Many think this refers to a virgin producing a mighty man, the Messiah.

Jer 31:23 Thus saith YHWH of hosts, the Elohim of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity; YHWH bless thee, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness.

They will praise YHWH.

Jer 31:24 And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all the cities thereof together, husbandmen, and they that go forth with flocks.

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

Jer 31:26 Upon this I awaked, and beheld; and my sleep was sweet unto me.

All of the preceding verses and part of the last chapter were given to Jeremiah in a dream.

Jer 31:27 Behold, the days come, saith YHWH, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast.

I will sow (Jezreel) the house of Israel AND the house of Judah. This will be in the millennium. But, the important thing to see is that this involves both houses of Israel or all 12 tribes, not just Judah as some erroneously teach. Also it was future from Jeremiah's day and the house of Israel was already in dispersion and has never been re-gathered.

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

As He also destroyed them and cast them away, He will watch over them to to one day re-gather them.

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

The children born in Babylon suffered from their parent's sins by being born into captivity. We are also suffering for our fathers sins 2700 years ago and the lies that we inherited from them.

Jer 31:30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith YHWH, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

The new covenant (actually a renewed covenant - see Strongs # 2318) **is connected to the restoration of ALL Israel to the land.**

The Hebrew reads "Ach'aray ha'yamim" - "**after those days**". This takes into consideration which days are being spoken of through all of chapters 30 and 31 - **the days of the restoration of all Yisrael to the land as a re-united people.** At the time of this return - of all Yisrael - YHWH will KARAT (3772), "cut" a New Covenant with us. The usage of this Hebrew word precludes any possibility of a progressive Covenant. To

KARAT a Covenant, of grammatical necessity, is time and place specific. What we are given in Yirmayahu is legally known as a "future promise to contract", not the contract itself. (Rav David Pollina)

It is made with both houses of Israel. (Israel and Judah) The Renewed Covenant or New Testament to some was **never cut with gentiles-- only Israel.** This does not refer to the gentile "church". Heb. 8:8. So all the parties (Israel and Judah) are not yet reunited so that the covenant can be cut.

The startling thing is that the Renewed Covenant is not completely in effect. . You don't see anyone out there with the Torah written upon their hearts, not needing any man teach them. The following verses are talking about the Millennium when Yahshua will reign over Israel. We have the earnest or down payment of the Spirit until the day of our redemption.

(See 2 Cor 1:21-22; 2 Cor 5:5; Eph 1:13-14)

The word for New Covenant is Brit Chadashah.

In Hebrew, the phrase translated “new covenant” in Jeremiah 31:31 is ברית חדשה (*b'rit chadashah*), a combination of two Hebrew words. The first is ברית (*b'rit*, Strong's #1285), the common Hebrew word for “covenant.” The second comes from חדשה (*chadash*, Strong's #2319), which means “new” or “fresh.” *Chadash* itself comes from the related verb (*chadaush*, Strong's #2318) meaning “to make new, renew or repair.” In other words, the *b'rit chadashah* is the “renewed” or “repaired” covenant that YHWH promises to make with the reunited Houses of Judah and Israel.

Also, The Etymological Dictionary of Biblical Hebrew also states that the root word

חדש means renewed or repaired.

The Sinai Covenant stressed man's responsibilities whereas the Abrahamic Covenant emphasized YHWH's promises. The Priestly Covenant of Num 25:12-13, The Davidic Covenant of 2 Sam 7 and the renewed Covenant of Jer. 31:31 are all administrative aspects of the same Covenant, Yahweh's Covenant of Grace. (Natan Lawrence)

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 bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith YHWH:*

Husband, lord or master in Hebrew is "Baal". Evidence supports the common term Baal evolving into a corrupted name for a heathen diety, not vice versa. **However, the septuagint has "for they did not continue in my covenant, and so I paid no heed to them, says Yahweh. This agrees with what Paul quoted in Hebrews 8:9.** The expression "although I was a husband to them" is only found here.

Jer 31:33 *But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith YHWH, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people.*

The covenant Yahweh makes with the House of Israel is to put His Torah in their hearts. Isa. 51:7; Heb. 8:10; Rom. 2:15; Heb 10:16; 2 Cor. 6:16; this is the New or Renewed covenant. But there seems to be a problem as most Christians don't have the Torah written in their hearts. Most say it was abolished, so how can it be written in their hearts? If the Torah is written in their hearts, why don't they keep Sabbath and the Feasts of Yahweh? Why don't they keep Kosher?

NOTICE - in v. 31 Yahweh says He will make a renewed covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah. But, in v.33 there is no mention of Judah. Why?? The reason is that this takes place AFTER the Two Sticks are joined together in Eze. 37 and now there is ONE nation called ISRAEL.

Jer 31:34 *And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know YHWH: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith YHWH: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.*

No more preaching? This is because we will have a perfect knowledge of Yahshua, the living Torah. We won't need to be taught.

Heb. 8:12 Most Christians don't even know his name!

The following verses are still future.

Jer 31:35 *Thus saith YHWH, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; YHWH of hosts is his name:*

Jer 31:36 *If those ordinances depart from before me, saith YHWH, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.*

This is a promise made by Yahweh that if the sun and moon depart from Him, that only then would Israel cease to be a nation before Him forever. We know of course, that this won't happen any more than heaven and earth departing in Matt. 5:18 attesting that the law or Torah would cease only then.

Torah and Israel are eternal.

Jer 31:37 *Thus saith YHWH; 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, saith YHWH.*

Only if the foundations of the earth can be measured, will Yahweh cast off Israel. Thus the House of Israel must exist somewhere in the world today.

Jer 31:38 *Behold, the days come, saith YHWH, that the city shall be built to YHWH from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner.*

Jer 31:39 *And the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath.*

Jer 31:40 *And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto YHWH; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.*

The valley of dead bodies, also called Valley of Ben Hinnon, also Tophet. This was also known as the Valley where the Assyrians fell. The Assyrians were slain there once by the angel of Yahweh, but the king Sennacherib was not. It is where Ahaz and Manasseh made their children pass through the fire. Yahshua referred to this place to denote the place of eternal torment (Gehenna). Jer. 30:33 says it was ordained of old, for the king it is prepared. This may refer either to the King of Assyria or the Anti Messiah. I believe that as prophecy has multiple fulfillments and seeing that this whole chapter of Jeremiah is speaking of the Day of Yahweh and the millennium, it is still future. The Assyrian army and their king will be destroyed here.

This verse is still future as the city has not been rebuilt unto Yahweh never to be destroyed again.

It would seem then that we are not totally under the renewed covenant. The renewed covenant won't be in effect until the millennium. We have the earnest of the spirit, but not yet the fullness. We are betrothed, but not yet redeemed. We will be redeemed when the bridegroom comes back for his bride and takes her to be with him for ever. Then we drink the cup of redemption at the wedding ceremony and the marriage and renewed covenant is then consummated.