Jeremiah
A Prophet Unto the Nations

The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31-32
Lesson 11

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
November 10, 2013
History

- Kingdom of Judah (fall of Samarian in 722 BC)
- Final kings of the Davidic Dynasty
  - Josiah - Jehoahaz - Jehoiakim - Jehoiachin - Zedekiah
- Fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC
- Survivors go to Egypt
Jeremiah the Prophet

- A Prophet to the Nations (1:5)
- Words of Jeremiah (1:9-10)
  Pluck up, break down, destroy, overthrow
  Build, plant
- Pictures of Jeremiah’s ministry (1:11-16)
  Almond branch
  Boiling pot facing away from the north
- Sin of Judah
  Forsake the Fountain of Living Water (2:12-13)
  An evil heart (4:14)
Jeremiah’s Prophecy

- Days of Josiah (1-20) – case against Israel
- Days of Josiah’s sons (21-45)
  - Book of hope (30-33)
  - Fall of Jerusalem (39)
- Prophecy to the nations (46-51)
- Fall of Jerusalem (52)
  - Elevation of Jehoiachin
A New Covenant with Judah/Israel

- Jeremiah 30-33 – Book of Hope
- Job 9:2 – “How can a man be in the right before God?”
- Israel – house of Israel and house of Judah were hopelessly evil
- Promises have been made
Jeremiah 30 – review

- Jeremiah 30:2-3 – “I will restore the fortunes of My people, Israel and Judah and bring them back to the land I gave their fathers and they shall take possession of it.”

- A coming day of wrath (30:4-7)
  - “Jacob’s Trouble”
  - Saved out of the nations among whom the LORD scattered them (30:11)
  - Incurable wound for great guilt and flagrant sin (30:12-15)
  - “I will restore health to you” (30:17, 18)
  - You will be my people and I will be your God (30:22)
  - Accomplished through wrath (30:23-24)
Jeremiah 31 - Blessing

- “I will be the God of all the clans of Israel and they shall be my people.” (31:1)
- The love of God – “I will build” (31:2-4)
- Temporal blessing (31:5)
- Chief of the nations (31:7)
- National restoration – Ephraim is firstborn (31:8-9)
- A word to the nations - lesson of Israel (31:10-14)
Nation Israel Rebuilt (31:15-30)

- They are no more (31:15)
- There is hope for your future (31:17)
- Ephraim, My dear son (31:20)
- Judah, habitation of righteousness (31:23-24)
- Jeremiah’s message (31:26-30)
A New Covenant (31:31-40)

- A new Covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah (v. 31)

- What is new about the New Covenant?
  - Replaces the Old Covenant (31:32)
  - The Old Covenant
    - Exodus 19:3-6 – a holy nation
    - Deut. 5:2-3; 28-33 – covenant with Israel, not the fathers

- Were the nations ever under the Old Covenant?
  - Deut. 4:7-8 – no great nation given the Laws of God
  - Psalm 147:19-20 – Not dealt thus with any nation
Why have a New Covenant (31:31-40)?

- **Message of Jeremiah – sin of Israel**
  - Rejected the Fountain of Living Water (2:12-13)
  - Hurt is incurable (30:12-13)
  - “They are no more” (31:15)
  - The broken covenant (11:10-11) – do not pray for this people (11:14, 17)

- **Promise to the fathers**
  - Genesis 12:1-3 – great nation
  - Genesis 15:18-20 – land given to Abraham and his offspring
  - Genesis 17:8 – an everlasting possession (Canaan)
  - Exodus 6:2-8 – oath in which He swore by Himself (Heb. 6:17)
  - Deuteronomy 7:6-8 – unconditional promise to the fathers
  - Jeremiah 1:11-12 – the Almond Branch – watching My Word to perform it
What is this New Covenant?

▶ Terms:
  • Unlike the first (old)
  • Inner righteousness
  • Certainty of relationship with God
  • Knowledge of God
  • Forgiveness of sins

▶ Promise:
  • The sovereign power of God (31:35-37)
  • A holy land (31:38-40)
  • Restoration to the Land under Eternal King (33:14-16)
When is the New Covenant established?

- “The days are coming” (30:3; 31:27, 31, 38; 33:14)
- “In the latter days” (30:24) with “at that time” (31:1)
- “Days are coming”
  - Wrath for Israel (7:32; 9:25; 19:6)
  - Restoration of Israel (16:14; 23:5, 7; 30:3; 31:27, 31, 38; 33:14)
  - Wrath for nations (51:47, 52)
  - Restoration of nations (48:12; 49:2)
Is the New Covenant Limited to Israel?

- Jeremiah is the prophet to the nations
- New Covenant mentioned 9 verses in N.T.
  - Death of Christ – Matt 26:28; Mk 14:24; Lu 22:20; 1 Cor 11:25
  - Replacement for Old Covenant – 2 Cor 3:6; Heb 8:8, 13; 9:15; 12:24
The Everlasting Covenant

- Noahic Covenant – Gen 9:16
- Abrahamic Covenant – Gen. 17:7, 13, 19; 1 Chron 16:15-17; Ps. 105:6-15
- Davidic Covenant – 2 Samuel 23:5
- Covenant with Israel – Isa 61:8; Jer 32:40; 50:5; Eze. 16:59-63; Eze. 37:15-28 (26)
- Covenant for all nations – Isa 24:5; Isa 55:3
- Heb 13:20 – everlasting covenant works through Jesus Christ
The New Covenant in Jeremiah

- A new way to restore the nation Israel by saving them
  - Sins taken away - all Israel saved (Romans 11:25-32)
  - Israel’s fate determines Gentile blessing (Romans 11:11-12)

- The New Covenant is the Everlasting Covenant

- The Everlasting Covenant is God’s plan for restoration of creation through Jesus Christ
Jeremiah buys a field (32)

- Disaster is soon to come (32:1-5)
- LORD instructs him to purchase cousin’s field (32:6-8)
- Jeremiah purchases and stores the deeds (32:9-15)
- Jeremiah prays – perplexed – why purchase when disaster is coming? (32:16-25)
- LORD answers – Nothing too hard for Me (32:26-44)
  - Wrath shall come (32:26-35)
  - Restoration shall come – everlasting covenant (32:36-44)
A New Covenant

- A replacement for the Old Covenant in forming the nation Israel
- Means by which Israel will finally be the great nation
- The New Covenant is the Everlasting Covenant