

Jeremiah's Urgent Prophecy

There is a beautiful and yet tragic chapter in the book of Jeremiah, which is about our time today, our future and the future of our children, but it is neglected by the churches of God, who have so far failed to fulfil their responsibility which God gave them in this chapter, because of the failure until now of the 'watchmen of Ephraim', ministers who for years have been warning of our sins and coming punishment if we do not repent, but have failed to pick up on a special responsibility this chapter provides.

This article is directed to those watchmen, for it maybe that their failure has placed a hold on the whole progress of God's Plan until they awaken to the words we will examine today.

It is a beautiful Chapter because it is about the establishment of the Kingdom of God here on the earth and our most exciting deliverance into a glorious relationship with God, but it is tragic that we watchmen of Ephraim (A leading Tribe in Ancient Israel, the descendants of whom today are the British in Britain, Australia, Canada and New Zealand) have been blind to God's commands, so far failing to prepare for what God obviously considers to be a vital role in the coming most dangerous situation for His people, Israel.

For me as one of those who have performed the role of a watchman in Britain and Australia, it is doubly tragic, because the initiating role *must* be carried out by God's watchmen in *Ephraim*.

So, let us examine this glorious chapter in the hope that the watchmen of Ephraim who read this might recognise their responsibility and begin to play their role as God has willed. We will start by examining the context of that chapter, Jeremiah 31.

That starts in Jeremiah 30:2-3, where Jeremiah is told to write that God will bring again from captivity, His people Israel, to the land He gave to their Fathers. "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you. For behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says the LORD, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it."

Now the point to notice here is that the prophecy is about both Israel *and* Judah, and this places it at the end of the age, for never before were Israel and Judah in captivity at the same time, but the time is coming when that will come about.

We are told it will be a time of great fear, as families are torn apart and carried away in slavery to distant lands, from all the lands in which Israel has made their home. Jeremiah 30:5, 'For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of

fear, and not of peace.’ Never before will so many Israelites face so much trouble, brought about by their nations’ God-defying sins, Hosea 12:2, ‘The LORD has an indictment against Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways; he will repay him according to his deeds.’ Ezekiel 39:23, ‘The nations will also learn that **because of Israel’s sin** the house of Israel went into captivity, since they were unfaithful in their behaviour toward me. As a result, I hid my presence from them, turned them over to the control of their enemies, and they died by violence.’ ISV.

Not all of them died, however, verse 7, ‘Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of **Jacob’s** (US & Britain etc.) **trouble**, but he shall be saved out of it.’ This is acknowledged to be the ‘Tribulation’ we also read of in the New Testament. So few of Israel will survive those last seven years of this age, that finally, all of the remnant of the twelve tribes will be gathered into the small land of Israel in the Middle East, although it will be expanded into its original, God given borders.

There, they will rebuild their lives, and the ruined cities, Jeremiah 30:18, “**Thus says the LORD: Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob and have compassion on his dwellings; the city shall be rebuilt on its mound, and the palace shall stand where it used to be.**’ All of this will be carried out under the direction and help of Jesus Christ, verse 22, “**And you shall be my people, and I will be your God.**”

When will this be? Verse 24 provides us with the answer, ‘**The fierce anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intentions of his mind. In the latter days you will understand this.**’ Bible students generally believe these words, wherever they are found, indicate the last days of this age, just before and during the return of Christ.

Putting these verses together leads us to understand that the context of the following chapter, chapter 31, starts with that time of trouble just before the return of Jesus Christ and the First Resurrection, known as the Tribulation, although, as we will see, it is undeniably clear from the chapter itself, that the chapter progresses from their captivity to their gathering and the establishment of God’s Kingdom, here on the Earth.

Chapter 31

Verse 1, ‘**At the same time...**’ that is, ‘**in the latter days**’, continuing from the previous chapter, Judah and Israel will be re-united, under God. 2 ‘**The people who were left**’ in *ancient* Israel found grace in the wilderness for 40 years, 3 but now that same faithfulness will rescue Israel again, with lovingkindness.

4 The Lord promises this now godly remnant (they have passed under the rod to purge out the rebels, Ezekiel 20:37-38) that He will build Israel and they will have joy in their salvation, ‘**Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel!**

Again you shall adorn yourself with tambourines and shall go forth in the dance of the merry-makers.’

5 The 10 Northern Tribes will prosper agriculturally on the hills of Samaria, to the North of Judah, typified by, ‘Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit.’

6 At verse 6 we see a discontinuity which returns to a time when Israel was still in captivity, *before* their rescue and regathering had begun. *Israel had been invaded and many carried away to slavery in foreign lands, where the vast majority perish, Isaiah 6:13, ‘If even a tenth—a remnant—survive, it will be invaded again and burned. But as a terebinth or oak tree leaves a stump when it is cut down, so Israel’s stump will be a holy seed.’ NLT.*

In verse 6 we are told that there will be a time when God’s watchmen in Ephraim, the UK and its ex-colonies, are to cry out, “**Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.**” “Arise”, in the sense of “stand up”, “stir yourself”, as in Isaiah 32:9, ‘**Rise up, you women who are at ease, Hear my voice; You complacent daughters, Give ear to my speech**’. God has a work for His faithful people to do, in Jerusalem, and the watchmen in Ephraim must inform the Church!

When will this time be? The next few verses reveal the answer. It can only be *after* Israel has been invaded and taken into slavery.

7-9 ‘This is what the Lord says:

“Sing with joy for Jacob;
shout for the foremost of the nations.
Make your praises heard, and say,
‘Lord, **save** your people,
the remnant of Israel.’
See, I will bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the ends of the earth.
Among them will be the blind and the lame,
expectant mothers and women in labor;
a great throng will return.
They will come with weeping;
they will pray as I bring them back.
I will lead them beside streams of water
on a level path where they will not stumble,
because I am Israel’s father,
and Ephraim is my firstborn son.”

Once again these verses prove this is yet future, for Ancient Israel was taken captive by the Ancient Assyrians, in the 700’s BC and never returned to their homeland, eventually migrating into NW Europe and the isles offshore. Today, the *chief* nations

of Israel are the descendants of Jacob, the US, Britain, and its ex-colonies, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

However, logic tells us that if the watchmen were to wait until they were invaded, they would be captive themselves, and so they must proclaim their God given message to produce a faithful and obedient group who *will* follow the Lord's Command, and go up to Zion (Jerusalem) *before* Israel's invasion prevents international travel.

This is no small Command of God. The logistics, finances, bureaucracy and practicalities will take much preparation and planning, which could not be done in a hurry, and yet here it is, a vital, commanded part of God's Plan, which, in His mercy, will provide hope to Israelites in harsh captivity, who might otherwise give up, and perish. He is relying on just a few faithful watchmen in Ephraim to initiate this huge task.

But, how will we know *when* to go up to Jerusalem? Only God knows the answer, and so let us look how He will inform us. Matthew 24:14, '[And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.](#)' The end of this age. The beginning of God's intervention. The very start of the last 7 years of the Tribulation!

Many have assumed that the Church will achieve this by its preaching. Despite our best technology it cannot possibly reach *every* man and woman. But God can, and will, Revelation 14:6-7, '[Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth--to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."](#) NIV.

Read about this in detail in our article, [End-Time Dreams and Visions](#)'.

This is God's last warning to all people to repent and worship Him, before He pours out the Tribulation. It is **the unmistakable sign we will need**, to *institute* the plans that, by then have been made, to carry out this witness from Jerusalem, plans we should begin to make right now. The watchmen of Ephraim only have to proclaim this task to God's Church. It is then up to those who respond to join with the watchmen in preparing and planning this responsibility. Are you one of God's faithful? A servant who delights in doing God's work? Matthew 24:46-47, '[Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.](#)' Those who do this work will be forever blessed, as part of the Bride of Christ, and members of the very family of God. We have to wonder about those who ignore God's instructions!

Back to verse 7-9,

7 Verse seven continues God's instructions to the watchmen. The *chief* of the nations (King James) include the US and Britain ect., who will be the Lord's ordained nation to carry His way to the Millennial Earth. The reference to "the remnant" implies they are much reduced in number due to the world-war, invasion and their slavery of the first half of the tribulation, called "the Tribulation of those days" in Mathew 24:29.

8 The message from Jerusalem to them in their captivity, is that God will come and rescue them, and gather them to Jerusalem from all the lands to which they have been taken.

9 Traumatized, sick and weary, the Israelites will be gently gathered by the resurrected Saints, God's active arm. Isaiah 40:10-11, 'Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.'

Isaiah 43:5-7,

'Do not be afraid, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east
and gather you from the west.

I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'

and to the south, 'Do not hold them back!'

Bring My sons from afar,

and My daughters from the ends of the earth—

everyone called by My name and created for My glory,
whom I have indeed formed and made."

Only those who look to Jesus Christ as their Saviour will enter this Holy Land.

10 News of the Lord's rescue of Israel will be broadcast to the whole world. "Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will **keep** him as a shepherd keeps his flock.' This will be a shepherd ministry by those who have proved their desire to emulate the True Shepherd, now their husband Jesus Christ, just as a shepherd *tends* his flock.

11 Christ has paid the price of our sins with His redeeming blood and will deliver Jacob from the power of the Antichrist, the Beast power of Europe, who has extended his power over many nations. 'For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, And ransomed him from the hand of one stronger than he.'

12 The rescued Israelites will be shepherded as they flow through the ruined nations towards a land blessed by God which will become like an oasis in a devastated world, from lands as far away as Sinim. (Australia, Isaiah 49:12) Verse 12, 'They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD-

- the grain, the new wine and the olive oil, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more.'

13-14 There the Lord will change their mourning into joy as they experience the peace, security and comfort of knowing they are in the care of their God. 'Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, declares the LORD.'

15-17 In a prophetic insert, Rachel, the mother of Joseph, from whom the US and Britain are descended, is pictured as weeping over the chastening they have experienced for their sins, at the hands of such as the Beast, but God says refrain, for her children will be brought again to their own land, where, in the end, she will meet her children.

18-22 In the following soliloquy the Lord tells of Ephraim's confession, that he has now repented by turning from his sins and recognises his punishment was justly deserved. Now the Lord claims Ephraim again as His "pleasant child" and will surely have mercy on him as he returns to his homeland.

23-28 Lord continues that Judah too will be gradually filled with godly Jewish Israelites in peace and security; interestingly, only farmers and shepherds get a mention here, with no mention of the orthodox black hats with ringlets we see in Israel today! V 28, 'And it shall come to pass that as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring harm, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, declares the LORD'.

29-30 In those days in God's Kingdom, no-one will be punished for the sins of his father, as the exiles in Babylon had felt they were, but each will pay the penalty for their own sin.

31-34 Now we come to the absolute proof that this whole chapter is yet future. Physical Israel, the whole nations of Israel, will be given a spiritual privilege along with those who have been grafted in, based upon the atonement made possible by Jesus Christ's sacrifice, as our Creator, for the forgiveness of our sins.

Here is described a new covenant made with the united nation of Israel which will require an amazing outpouring of God's Holy Spirit upon those who have shown themselves repentant as a nation, even before they were allowed into the now Holy Land.

"The days are coming," declares the Lord,
"when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel

and with the people of Judah.
It will not be like the covenant
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,”
declares the Lord.

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel
after that time,” declares the Lord.

“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

This time, this new covenant will be the foundation of their national and religious life and provide a new motivation to practice God’s Law. It is the same covenant faithful Christians still renew with their God each year, at Passover, 1Corinthians 11:25, ‘In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” It is founded upon Christ’s perfect sacrifice for sin.

The universal nature of this covenant with Israel and Judah will enable all of them to enjoy an intimate relationship with God based on their acceptance of their Saviour as their High Priest, who has redeemed them from sin.

35-37 The Lord now goes to extra-ordinary lengths to show that the descendants of Abraham are and will always be a special nation before Him, despite all they have done. It could not more clearly stated that they are to take on the role He had envisaged for them from the beginning.....verse 37: ‘This is what the LORD says: “Just as the heavens cannot be measured and the foundations of the earth cannot be explored, so I will not consider casting them away for the evil they have done. I, the LORD, have spoken!”’ New Living Translation.

38-40 The ultimate prophetic goal for Jerusalem is here indicated by the words, ‘Behold the days come...’ The city is to be dedicated to God, holy, freed from all its idolatrous pollutions. Even the Kidron valley, the slopes of the Mount of Olives with all its graves, and the Hinnom valley, known for its cultic rituals, burning rubbish and ashes, will become holy unto the Lord.

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when the city shall be rebuilt for the LORD from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. And the measuring line shall go out farther, straight to the hill Gareb, and shall then turn to Goah. The whole valley of the dead bodies and the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be sacred to the LORD.....

The holiness and peace of the World's Capital City could not be better pictured than the total cleansing of this once defiled and desecrated area to its East and South. [“It shall not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.”](#)

And so we come to the end of this beautiful chapter. This vision sustains us through the years, through the good times, and the bad. [‘Where there is no vision, the people perish.’](#) Proverbs 29:18. It is a marvellous high point chapter in God's Plan, picturing the establishment of God's Millennial Kingdom, populated by His godly sons and daughters, who will be drawn on to carry God's Way to a ruined world.

We read, and we are thrilled, but I ask, is it not significant that the progress through this chapter **starts** with a task, given by God to just a few faithful watchmen in Ephraim. Will the plan progress if this part is missed out? It cannot. It will not, for it is God's will, but the ears of many are closed to this message. They look to the end reward, becoming the Bride of Christ, sharing rule with Him in His Kingdom, but not the responsibility. And so, this whole prophecy will not be easily achieved, for many in God's Church have been deceived. [‘The prophet, along with my God, is the watchman over Ephraim, yet snares await him on all his paths, and hostility in the house of his God.’](#) Hosea 9:8.

They should understand that God says that they must proclaim the task of going up to Zion, but the work of broadcasting to the “chief of nations” is not theirs alone, but the faithful who respond to their proclamation from the Churches. It is not a task for just a few, it will need the support and expertise of many who have media experience and there are many of those in God's Church!

Jeremiah 3:6-7, [‘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 the LORD our God. For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.’](#)

This is your calling, the watchmen of Ephraim. It is a time to start planning this God given work of the Church, for all the signs show that the End Time is approaching.

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