

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

JEREMIAH 31

Jeremiah 31

The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31 is part of a section of Jeremiah’s prophesy to the captives in exile, in Babylon. God disciplined His beloved Israel by allowing a more wicked nation than they were, to conquer them. They were expelled from the land, but not forever. Will God cast His people off forever? No. Jeremiah’s letter to the captives in chapter twenty-nine is a letter to settle in and make a difference where you are; “bloom where God has planted you.” Chapter thirty is the beginning of the prophesy of return. God is and will be faithful to the promises He made to Abraham and the fathers, and He will bring Israel back into the land. Chapter thirty-one is the promise of a New Covenant that He will make with His people. A covenant not written in stone as He did with the Mosaic Covenant, but rather one written on the heart (31:33). God will lead His people once again as a shepherd leads his sheep. He will bring them back to the land that He promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He will give them intimate knowledge of Himself and will forgive their sins. God in His great chesed, translated “lovingkindness, loyal love” and other ways in our English Bibles, drew Israel back to

Himself. This was the first return. In 70 A.D. the people were driven from the land again because of disobedience, but God has not cast His people off forever. It is often asked today as it was during the days of the Apostle Paul, **“I say then, Has God cast His people off? Certainly not!”** (Romans 12:1a) The Scriptures are clear, see below...

“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): ‘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.’ 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.” (Jeremiah 31:35-37)

Prayer and Action Steps

Lord, thank you that you were and are faithful to your promises concerning Israel and You will be faithful to your promises to me. Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
