

5/4/25

Sermon Title: Promise of Israel's Eternal Restoration

Preacher: Pastor Kim Soonbae

Scripture Passage: Jeremiah 33:1–26

*(Jeremiah 33:1) While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the LORD came to him a second time:*

*(Jeremiah 33:2) “This is what the LORD says, he who made the earth, the LORD who formed it and established it—the LORD is his name:*

*(Jeremiah 33:3) ‘Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.’*

*(Jeremiah 33:4) For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says about the houses in this city and the royal palaces of Judah that have been torn down to be used against the siege ramps and the sword*

*(Jeremiah 33:5) in the fight with the Babylonians : ‘They will be filled with the dead bodies of the people I will slay in my anger and wrath. I will hide my face from this city because of all its wickedness.*

*(Jeremiah 33:6) “Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.*

*(Jeremiah 33:7) I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before.*

*(Jeremiah 33:8) I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me.*

*(Jeremiah 33:9) Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it.’*

*(Jeremiah 33:10) “This is what the LORD says: ‘You say about this place, “It is a desolate waste, without people or animals.” Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by neither people nor animals, there will be heard once more*

*(Jeremiah 33:11) the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, "Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; his love endures forever." For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,' says the LORD.*

*(Jeremiah 33:12) "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'In this place, desolate and without people or animals—in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks.*

*(Jeremiah 33:13) In the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah, flocks will again pass under the hand of the one who counts them,' says the LORD.*

*(Jeremiah 33:14) "The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.*

*(Jeremiah 33:15) "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land.*

*(Jeremiah 33:16) In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.'*

*(Jeremiah 33:17) For this is what the LORD says: 'David will never fail to have a man to sit on the throne of Israel,*

*(Jeremiah 33:18) nor will the Levitical priests ever fail to have a man to stand before me continually to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to present sacrifices.'"*

*(Jeremiah 33:19) The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:*

*(Jeremiah 33:20) "This is what the LORD says: 'If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time,*

*(Jeremiah 33:21) then my covenant with David my servant—and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me—can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne.*

*(Jeremiah 33:22) I will make the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars in the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore.’”*

*(Jeremiah 33:23) The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:*

*(Jeremiah 33:24) “Have you not noticed that these people are saying, ‘The LORD has rejected the two kingdoms he chose’? So they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation.*

*(Jeremiah 33:25) This is what the LORD says: ‘If I have not made my covenant with day and night and established the laws of heaven and earth,*

*(Jeremiah 33:26) then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them.’”*

In the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, and the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, the word of the Lord came again to the prophet Jeremiah while he was still confined in the courtyard of the guard in the palace of the king of Judah.

At that time, Jerusalem was still under siege by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

God told Jeremiah to call out to Him in prayer, and He would answer, revealing great and hidden things.

It was to give hope to the people of Judah who were facing a desperate national crisis.

*(Jeremiah 33:1) While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the LORD came to him a second time:*

*(Jeremiah 33:2) “This is what the LORD says, he who made the earth, the LORD who formed it and established it—the LORD is his name:*

*(Jeremiah 33:3) ‘Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.’*

Soon, the city of Jerusalem will be filled with the corpses of those who fought against Babylon.

Because of the sins of the people of Judah, God has been angry and has turned His face away from the city.

*(Jeremiah 33:4) For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says about the houses in this city and the royal palaces of Judah that have been torn down to be used against the siege ramps and the sword*

*(Jeremiah 33:5) in the fight with the Babylonians : ‘They will be filled with the dead bodies of the people I will slay in my anger and wrath. I will hide my face from this city because of all its wickedness.*

The people tear down their own houses and even the royal palace in an attempt to stop the Babylonian army, but it will be of no use.

However, the Lord says that when the time comes, He Himself will heal the city. Though it is wounded because of the sins committed, He promises to show grace and bring restoration.

*(Jeremiah 33:6) “Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.*

*(Jeremiah 33:7) I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before.*

*(Jeremiah 33:8) I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me.*

The Lord says He will bring back the captives of Judah and Israel and forgive all the sins they committed against Him, cleansing them and restoring them as they were at the beginning.

This indicates that the destruction and suffering Israel experienced were due to their sins, and that the grace of forgiveness is the fundamental remedy for Israel's restoration.

It also implies a foreshadowing of the new covenant in the age of the Gospel.

When that time comes, Jerusalem will become a joy to the Lord, a name of praise and glory before all the nations.

The nations will witness all the good the Lord has done for His people and will tremble in awe.

*(Jeremiah 33:9) Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it.'*

The Lord says that the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of the bridegroom and the bride, and the songs of those bringing thank offerings to the temple will once again be heard in the streets of Jerusalem and the towns of Judah that had been desolate.

God promises to restore the captives and make things as they once were.

*(Jeremiah 33:10) "This is what the LORD says: 'You say about this place, "It is a desolate waste, without people or animals." Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by neither people nor animals, there will be heard once more*

*(Jeremiah 33:11) the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, "Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; his love endures forever." For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,' says the LORD.*

*(Jeremiah 33:12) "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'In this place, desolate and without people or animals—in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks.*

*(Jeremiah 33:13) In the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah, flocks will again pass under the hand of the one who counts them,' says the LORD.*

The towns of the hill country, the western foothills, the Negev, the territory of Benjamin, the areas around Jerusalem, and the towns of Judah will once again be filled with flocks of sheep.

It refers to peace, stability, and prosperity.

God also declares that His promise regarding the continued existence of the Davidic dynasty and the Levitical priesthood will be fulfilled.

This promise was partially fulfilled through the return from exile, and ultimately fulfilled through the ministry of the Messiah.

When the reign of the Messiah comes, Judah will be redeemed, and Jerusalem will be called "The Lord Our Righteousness."

*(Jeremiah 33:14) "The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.*

*(Jeremiah 33:15) "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land.*

*(Jeremiah 33:16) In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.'*

The Davidic dynasty and the Levitical priesthood will endure forever.

*(Jeremiah 33:17) For this is what the LORD says: 'David will never fail to have a man to sit on the throne of Israel,*

*(Jeremiah 33:18) nor will the Levitical priests ever fail to have a man to stand before me continually to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to present sacrifices.'"*

When they returned from exile, they had no king.

But ultimately, this prophetic word was fulfilled through the coming of Jesus Christ, who is both King and Priest.

Jesus Christ, who is seated on the heavenly throne, reigns over us as our King and intercedes for us as our Priest.

God declares that His covenant can never be broken.

*(Jeremiah 33:19) The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:*

*(Jeremiah 33:20) "This is what the LORD says: 'If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time,*

*(Jeremiah 33:21) then my covenant with David my servant—and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me—can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne.*

As long as the laws of nature are not broken, God says His covenant will never be broken.

God is always faithful to keep His covenant.

Just as He keeps His covenant with nature, He will also faithfully keep the covenant He made with His people.

*(Jeremiah 33:22) I will make the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars in the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore."*

According to His covenant, the people of Judah, and will bring them back from Babylonian captivity and care for them.

God speaks of the everlasting restoration of Israel.

*(Jeremiah 33:23) The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:*

*(Jeremiah 33:24) "Have you not noticed that these people are saying, 'The LORD has rejected the two kingdoms he chose'? So they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation.*

*(Jeremiah 33:25) This is what the LORD says: 'If I have not made my covenant with day and night and established the laws of heaven and earth,*

*(Jeremiah 33:26) then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them.'"*

After the captivity in 597 BC, most Jews believed that God had abandoned His people.

Furthermore, the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC deepened their already pessimistic outlook.

However, the Lord God will not fail to appoint a ruler from the line of David to reign over the descendants of Jacob.

The 'two kingdoms' refer to the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.

Among the Jews, those who could not believe the message proclaimed by God through Jeremiah were overwhelmed by their nation's desperate reality, gripped by fear, and could only think of utter destruction.

But God is ultimately planning Israel's everlasting restoration and prosperity.

Beloved members of Church of God's Dream,

Today, the world is rushing toward its end.

Natural phenomena such as earthquakes, storms, and tsunamis happening around the globe, the intense conflict between the Jesuits and Christianity following the Pope's death, the collapse of the global economy, and the movement toward digital currency all point to this reality.

In the midst of all this, God tells us to call out to Him, and He will answer and show us great and unsearchable things.

What God desires to give us is not disaster, but a future filled with hope.

God promised Abraham that his descendants would be more numerous than the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore.

All believers in Jesus Christ are spiritual Israel and descendants of Abraham. They are also royal priests.

Therefore, the Church of Christ and its saints will flourish throughout the whole world.

God will pour out His Spirit—His Holy Spirit—on people of all ages, men and women, and bring revival.

Just as He promised, He will make spiritual Israel as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore.

This is for the salvation of even one more soul.

Let us all cry out to God with all our strength.

God will show us great and hidden things that we do not know.