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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Various information and topics that help the reader of the Bible understand the apostles and the Lord Jesus Christ's teachings.

Jeremiah 3.

(2010).

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Teach it, don't demand it.

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Jeremiah 3.

The following is a brief overview of the main topics.
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Israel has Played the Whore with many Lovers.

Jeremiah 3:1 ----- ¹"If a man divorces his wife and she goes from him and becomes another man's wife, will he return to her? Would not that land be greatly polluted? You have played the whore with many lovers; and would you return to me? declares the LORD.

A Gross Sin; God asks Israel if they would return to Him after having committed adultery with many lovers (other gods). Then says, if it is a gross sin for a married man to take his divorced wife back when she is married to another man would it be right for Him to take them back especially since they refuse to be ashamed (v3).

Israel has Sat waiting for Lovers.

Jeremiah 3:2-5 ----- ²Lift up your eyes to the bare heights, and see! Where have you not been ravished? By the waysides you have sat awaiting lovers like an Arab in the wilderness. You have polluted the land with your vile whoredom. ³Therefore the showers have been withheld, and the spring rain has not come; yet you have the forehead of a whore; you refuse to be ashamed. ⁴Have you not just now called to me, 'My father, you are the friend of my youth—⁵will he be angry forever, will he be indignant to the end?' Behold, you have spoken, but you have done all the evil that you could."

Where have you not been ravished; refers to all the idols and altars that Israel has worship at.

Notice; rain was withheld from Israel's land as the punishment and warning for the people to turn from their pagan gods and wicked ways.

This is the same punishment that God will use during the Lord Jesus Christ 1000 year millennial reign on Earth as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Zechariah 14:9-19 ----- ⁹And the LORD will be king over all the earth. (through Christ) On that day the LORD will be one and his name one ---NOW GO TO ---- ¹⁶Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, (the Lord Jesus Christ) and to keep the Feast of Booths. ¹⁷And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. ¹⁸And if the family of Egypt does not go up and present themselves, then on them there shall be no rain; there shall be the plague with which the LORD afflicts the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths. ¹⁹This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths.

The feast of Booths was a time of joyous celebration, eating, sleeping, relaxing, and spending time with family and friends ending in the reading of God's laws.

For further information see: -

- Zechariah in, Commentary Old Testament (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The LORD thought Israel would Return to Him.

Jeremiah 3:6-7 ----- ⁶The LORD said to me in the days of King Josiah: "Have you seen what she did, that faithless one, Israel, how she went up on every high hill and under every green tree, and there played the whore? ⁷And I thought, 'After she has done all this she will return to me,' but she did not return, and her treacherous sister Judah saw it.

Josiah; (King of Judah) reigned for 31 years. His religious leadership ranks him as an outstanding religious ruler. Josiah's reign was the last surge of political independence and religious revival before the disintegration of the Southern Kingdom (the Two Tribes of Judah) which ended with the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon.

Notice; God allowed Israel to play the adulterer with other lovers (pagan gods) thinking they would eventually return to Him. Judah is called Israel's treacherous sister because they saw that God had divorced Israel and yet they continued committing the same sins as Israel. In this sense their betrayal to God was even greater than Israel's.

God Divorced Israel.

Jeremiah 3:8-10 ----- ⁸She (Judah) saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and played the whore. ⁹Because she took her whoredom lightly, she polluted the land, committing adultery with stone and tree. ¹⁰Yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah did not return to me with her whole heart, but in pretense, declares the LORD."

Judah was still keeping the LORD'S holy days, religious feasts and ceremonial rites at the Temple in Jerusalem, but only in pretence, their heart was not toward the LORD they had even set up idols and pagan symbols in the LORD'S Temple making their betrayal to God even greater than Israel's.

Israel is, Called to return to the LORD.

Jeremiah 3:11-13 ----- ¹¹And the LORD said to me (Jeremiah), "Faithless Israel has shown herself more righteous than treacherous Judah. ¹²Go, and proclaim these words toward the north (Israel), and say, "Return, faithless Israel," declares the LORD. I will not look on you in anger, for I am merciful, declares the LORD; I will not be angry forever. ¹³Only acknowledge your guilt, that you rebelled against the LORD your God and scattered your favors among foreigners under every green tree, and that you have not obeyed my voice, declares the LORD.

The Great Mercy of God; Israel has totally forsaken God, worshipped idols, and perverted His ways for their own gain, yet the LORD says if they return to Him He will forgive them because of His Great Mercy.

The practical application for us Today; no matter how great the offence toward God if there is true repentance God in His mercy will forgive, God will not deny a contrite and repentant heart.

God will give Israel Shepherds after His Own Heart.

Jeremiah 3:14-17 ----- ¹⁴Return, O faithless children, declares the LORD; for I am your master; I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion (Jerusalem). ¹⁵"And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding. ¹⁶And when you have multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, declares the LORD, they shall no more say, "The ark of the covenant of the LORD." It shall not come to mind or be remembered or missed; it shall not be made again. ¹⁷At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they shall no more stubbornly follow their own evil heart. ¹⁸In those days the house of Judah shall join the house of Israel, and together they shall come from the land of the north to the land that I gave your fathers for a heritage.

Zion is called, God's Holy Mountain because it is the hill Jerusalem, God Holy City is built on.

Notice; God holds the shepherds of Israel responsible for the decline of Israel.

I will bring you to Zion; (Jerusalem) Jeremiah's prophetic words "I will bring you to Zion (Jerusalem)" transcend his era and travel through time and history to the end of the 70 year Babylonian captivity when Cyrus, King of Persia (called the

LORD'S anointed shepherd) conquered the kingdom of Babylon and gave the people of Israel written permission to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple. At the time of Zerubbabel, Ezra and Nehemiah multitudes of Jews and their families triumphantly returned from the nations they had fled to when Assyria invaded Israel and Babylon attacked Jerusalem (Isaiah 45:1).

But; the wonder and splendour of God's prophetic word is that it is not limited to one time period only, but is able to rest for a moment at any given era accomplish its purpose and then take wings and travel to its final resting place, a future age and a future King who the LORD also calls His anointed shepherd, and his name is not Cyrus, but the Lord Jesus Christ, Jeremiah's prophetic words take us to the Lord Jesus Christ ruling at Jerusalem as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS to establish God's kingdom on earth. Multitudes of Jews not only from the Middle East nations, but from the entire world will return to Jerusalem.

They shall no more say, "The ark of the covenant of the LORD." At that time
Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations
shall gather to it, to the presence of the
LORD in Jerusalem (Jer 3:16-17).

The apostle John in the book of Revelations gives of a clearer view of the ultimate resting place of Jeremiah's prophetic words:-

Rev 21:3-5 ----- ³And I (John) heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God." ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." ⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."

Rev 21:22-24 ----- ²²And I (John) saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it,

Note.

This city if made up of Jews and Gentiles who trusted and had faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, they are called a new nation in Christ and the body of Christ in the New Testament.

For further information see the title:-

- Commonwealth of Israel (at the end of this Chapter).

Israel has been like a treacherous wife to her Husband.

Jeremiah 3:19-20 ---- ¹⁹"I said How I would set you among my sons, and give you a pleasant land, a heritage most beautiful of all nations. And I thought you would call me, My Father, and would not turn from following me. ²⁰Surely, as a treacherous wife leaves her husband, so have you been treacherous to me, O house of Israel, declares the LORD."

God's desire was to give Israel a perpetual inheritance of land that would be more fruitful and prosperous than any other land on the entire planet of earth. He thought the people would call Him Father, but instead like an adulterous wife they betrayed him.

Weeping for Israel's Sons.

Jeremiah 3:21 ----- ²¹A voice on the bare heights is heard, the weeping and pleading of Israel's sons because they have perverted their way; they have forgotten the LORD their God.

A voice on the bare heights weeping for Israel's sons; refers to the massive deaths of the sons of Israel who have been killed by the Assyrian armies.

God will Heal Israel's Faithlessness.

Jeremiah 3:22 ----- ²²"Return, O faithless sons; I will heal your faithlessness." "Behold, we come to you, for you are the LORD our God. ²³Truly the hills are a delusion, the orgies on the mountains. Truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel.

The hills are a delusion, the orgies on the mountains; refers to the altars and shrines Israel had built throughout their land on the top of hills.

Israel's confession of Repentance.

Jeremiah 3:24-25 ---- ²⁴"But from our youth the shameful thing has devoured all for which our fathers labored, their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters. ²⁵Let us lie down in our shame, and let our dishonor cover us. For we have sinned against the LORD our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even to this day, and we have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God."

Jeremiah prophetic words wonderfully speed ahead in time and now speak of the people of Israel repenting and confessing their unfaithfulness and acknowledging their shame in worshipping pagan gods, idols and perverting the LORD'S laws, and oppressing the poor for their own gain.

The Commonwealth of Israel.

It is important to understand that the promised 'SEED' of Abraham and David is Christ, all the promises to Israel are now fulfilled in Christ therefore they are not limited to Israel only but extend and embrace all those who belong to Christ because God is now creating one "New Nation" in Christ made up of both Jew and Gentiles. (Gentiles are everyone who is not a Hebrew or Jew).

Jews and Gentiles become One "New Nation" in Christ.

The Apostle Paul said: -

Ephes. 2:11-22 ----- ¹¹Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision (Jews), which is made in the flesh by hands—¹²remember that you (Gentiles) were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you (Gentiles) who once were far off (from God) have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our (Jews and Gentiles) peace, who has made us (Jews and Gentiles) both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he (Jesus) might create in himself one new man (Nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles), so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us (Jews and Gentiles) both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility (between the Jews and Gentiles). ¹⁷And he (Jesus) came and preached peace to you (Gentiles) who were far off (from God) and peace to those who were near (Jews). ¹⁸For through him (Jesus) we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you (Gentiles) are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints (Jews) and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure being joined together (Jews and Gentiles) grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you (Jews and Gentiles) also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Gentiles were separated from Christ, alienated from the, 'Commonwealth of Israel' and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus they have been brought to God by the blood of Christ. Jesus has made Jews and Gentiles both one by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances so that Jesus might create in himself one new man (Nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles).

In Jesus both Jews and Gentiles are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Christ is the head of this 'New Nation' and its Jewish and Gentile citizens are now equal in status before God since in Christ we are all brothers and sisters in the same eternal family that God is now establishing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The practical application of what this means to YOU: -

If you belong to Christ, all the future and eternal promises God made to Israel also apply to 'YOU.' The book of Revelation states, "When Christ returns everyone will see him (the Gentiles) and those who pierced him (the Jews). And tells us, Jesus the faithful witness and the ruler of kings on earth loves us (Jews and Gentiles), freed us from our sins by his blood and ransomed a people for God from every tribe (Jews) and language and people and nation (Gentiles) to be a kingdom and priests to God and they and will reign on the earth (Revelation 1:5-10).

End.