

This week's Audio, Video, and Teaching Notes are posted here.

Jeremiah's New Covenant Scroll (Jeremiah's New Covenant Prophecy – Jeremiah 31:31-34; The Word That Came to Jeremiah from YHVH; Take the Scroll and Write on it All the Words of YHVH; Baruch, Son of Neriah, The Scribe; Daniel's Seventy Week Prophecy and Jeremiah 25; Understand in the Word – Understand in the Vision; Bring Back the Captivity – A Message for the House of Israel and the House of Judah; Grab Hold of the Covenant; YHVH Will Save His People; There is No Remedy; You Shall be My People and I will be Your God; YHVH's Purposes are Done; Let Us Go to Zion; Ephraim is My Son; Rachel is Weeping for Her Son, for He is Not; Joseph is Still Alive – Stop Your Weeping; Follow the Way in Which You Came; God's Dream; People are Put to Death for Their Own Sins; God's Son is Returning; Valley of Dry Bones; Return to YHVH; After Two Days He Will Revive Us; I Will Plant Them in the Land with All My Heart and All My Soul)

February 16, 2019 – Ross Nichols
Jeremiah's New Covenant Scroll

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/jeremiahs-new-covenant-scroll/>

TEACHING NOTES

-Today's class is called, "Jeremiah's New Covenant Scroll". Last week I gave an introduction to the new covenant as it appears in the Book of Jeremiah. Today we will also be going into a key to understanding prophecy in context. The text that forms the foundation for this class is a single oracle found within Jeremiah 31:31-34 and is called the New Covenant Prophecy.

-Jer 31:31-34 "Behold, the days are coming, declares YHVH, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares YHVH. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares YHVH: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know YHVH,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares YHVH. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

-This is all that we know in a direct reference to the new covenant. Based on this, quite a bit has happened in the world in the past couple of thousand years. A lot of ideas have become associated with this new covenant. I want to touch on a proposal that this new covenant oracle, new covenant prophecy is actually part of a larger work. This particular prophecy is contained within a scroll that is now part of the Book of Jeremiah and is found in chapters 30-31. The Book of Jeremiah as we have it now contains at least 14 smaller scrolls that are indicated in the text by a marker / phrase that lets you know that this was once a smaller written unit and these were compiled. Let's take a look at this marker / phrase.

-Jer 7:1-2 The word that came to Jeremiah from YHVH: "Stand in the gate of YHVH's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of YHVH, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship YHVH.

-Jer 11:1-2 The word that came to Jeremiah from YHVH: "Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

-Jer 18:1-2 The word that came to Jeremiah from YHVH: "Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words."

-If you work through all 14 of these you will see that the text around these contain within these words to Jeremiah, there is not only a series of oracles that are contained within and quite they link one with the other and there is also important historical data that is written along with them. There are also other third person indicators that show us that someone other than Jeremiah is writing this and it's obvious when there is another writer. Based upon this third person, particularly this phrase is something which indicates to me that we have this third person that's writing. This third person is a man named Baruch, son of Neriah, the scribe and we know who he is from the bible. In 1975 and in 1996 were found ancient clay seals with his name written on them in ancient Hebrew. It said, belonging to Baruch, son of Neriah, the scribe. We know him from the Book of Jeremiah, mostly from chapters 36 and 45 and some of Jeremiah's prophecies were recorded by Baruch. How did we get this scroll?

-Jer 36:1-4 In the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from YHVH: "Take a scroll and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel and Judah and all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah until today. It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the disaster that I intend to do to them, so that everyone may turn from his evil way, and that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin." Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote on a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah all the words of YHVH that he had spoken to him.

-Jer 36:17-18 Then they asked Baruch, "Tell us, please, how did you write all these words? Was it at his dictation?" Baruch answered them, "He dictated all these words to me, while I wrote them with ink on the scroll."

-Baruch has the pen of a ready writer, then YHVH speaks to Jeremiah and Jeremiah gives it to Baruch and he writes it down and he does this in a series. We have all of these different scrolls and they become very important. Daniel studied these prophecies. Daniel is the wisest of all and has a book named after him. How many of us have not spent countless hours trying to determine the mystery of the Book of Daniel, particularly Daniel 9? Daniels famous seventy week's prophecy is based on the fact that he is looking into considering contemplating Jeremiah's prophecy.

-Dan 9:20-27 While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my plea before YHVH my God for the holy hill of my God, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice. He made me understand, speaking with me and saying, "O Daniel, I have now come out to give you insight and understanding. At the beginning of your pleas for mercy a word went out, and I have come to tell it to you, for you are greatly loved. Therefore consider the word and understand the vision. "Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in

everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator."

-He says all this after he say understand the word, and understand the vision. He's referring to something specific. Very few people say, I want to see what Daniel was seeing and what Gabriel is referring him to. Daniel is removed one, Daniel is studying Jeremiah's prophecies. What is Daniel looking at in Daniel 9:1?

-Dan 9:1-3 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, by descent a Mede, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans—in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years that, according to the word of YHVH to Jeremiah the prophet, must pass before the end of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years. Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.

-Jer 25:1-5 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah (that was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem: "For twenty-three years, from the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, to this day, the word of YHVH has come to me, and I have spoken persistently to you, but you have not listened. You have neither listened nor inclined your ears to hear, although YHVH persistently sent to you all his servants the prophets, saying, 'Turn now, every one of you, from his evil way and evil deeds, and dwell upon the land that YHVH has given to you and your fathers from of old and forever..."

-This particular prophecy as you work through deals specifically with this seventy years. When Gabriel tells Daniel to look into the word I believe he's referring to the words that came to Jeremiah from YHVH and thereby understand the vision. We know that Jeremiah begins his prophetic year in the thirteenth year of Josiah. Josiah is eight years old when he becomes king and when he is twenty-one Jeremiah's career as a prophet begins. This is important because I believe that at the time Jeremiah is also a young man. You have a young man who is of the seed of David and you have a young priest and they work in concert with one another.

-Jer 1:1-3 The words of Jeremiah, the son of Hilkiah, one of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, to whom the word of YHVH came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, and until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the captivity of Jerusalem in the fifth month.

-In the twelfth year of Josiah's rein is when he begins a religious reform.

-2Chr 34:1-3 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of YHVH, and walked in the ways of David his father; and he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet a boy, he began to seek the God of David his father, and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, and the carved and the metal images.

-The next year is when a young prophet by the name of Jeremiah steps on the scene. YHVH wants to strengthen this move so he puts in Josiah's presence the man Jeremiah. Five years into Jeremiah's prophetic ministry a scroll is discovered in the temple by a priest by the name of Hilkiah. Something interesting is that Jeremiah's Dad is also named Hilkiah and they are from Anathoth. Many believe that Jeremiah saw the original scroll of Moses. The teaching of Moses. Religious reform and everything is going on. Josiah has already kicked this thing off and he is a young man. The prophet is there and they are trying everything in their power to call forth to the people of that day saying repent and amend your ways, amend your doings, but does it work?

-We are here to study a different prophecy, Jeremiah's New Covenant Scroll. (Jeremiah 31:31-34) This prophecy is only four verses long and in Hebrew, consists of 92 words. Jeremiah's new covenant scroll, the scroll of YHVH (Chapters 30-31) which contains this oracle of which so much is made contains 18 sections and within them I believe is supporting information that is very important. You can't take just these four isolated verses and get the picture.

-If you pull this isolated prophecy from its greater context you miss some really important information. If we are going to understand this prophecy that you've been dealing with, I'm going to tell you like Gabriel told Daniel. Understand in the word, understand the vision. What is the word? The word is this new covenant scroll and it consists of markers and individual oracles that together bring forth some really important things that are tied to and associated with the new covenant. Around it and in the greater context we find some interesting points.

-Here are a few, we are going to read about a virgin that appears in this story. We are going to read about Rachel weeping. We are going to read about God's son. We are going to read about one dying for sins. We are going to read about forgiveness of sins. And we are going to read about the return of God's son. It's all in the word, understanding the word, understand the vision. Who is ready to work through this? Let's start with the first one.

-Jer 30:1-3 The word that came to Jeremiah from YHVH: "Thus says YHVH, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you. For behold, days are coming, declares YHVH, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says YHVH, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it."

-The purpose of these three verses is to give us the marker that this is a word from YHVH to Jeremiah and then it sets forth the context for this scroll which includes Jeremiah's new covenant prophecy. Prophecy is just part of it, there are a lot of prophecies in the new covenant scroll. I want you to write all this in a scroll because I am going to bring them back to the land so they can take possession of it.

-The purpose of the new covenant scroll to announce that Israel and Judah are going to come back. We know that this is divine, thus says YHVH. I want you to write this scroll

and here's the way it begins, thus says YHVH. This ought to interest us because it's speaking of the coming days, how soon, we don't know because it doesn't give us a date. This is talking about bringing back those who are scattered. Those who are away are going to be brought back, it's a return to the land given to the fathers to possess.

-Jer 29:12-14 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares YHVH, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares YHVH, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

-Eze 39:25-29 "Therefore thus says the Lord YHVH: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for my holy name. They shall forget their shame and all the treachery they have practiced against me, when they dwell securely in their land with none to make them afraid, when I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them from their enemies' lands, and through them have vindicated my holiness in the sight of many nations. Then they shall know that I am YHVH their God, because I sent them into exile among the nations and then assembled them into their own land. I will leave none of them remaining among the nations anymore. And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord YHVH."

-Amo 9:14-15 I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit. I will plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted out of the land that I have given them," says YHVH your God.

-This is the point of the Jeremiah new covenant scroll, is to say I'm going to cause a return and bring them back and plant them in this land in faithfulness and they are not going to be plucked up again.

-Jer 30:4-9 These are the words that YHVH spoke to Israel and Judah: "Thus says YHVH: We have heard a cry of panic, of terror, and no peace. Ask now, and see, can a man bear a child? Why then do I see every man with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor? Why has every face turned pale? Alas! That day is so great there is none like it; it is a time of distress for Jacob; yet he shall be saved out of it. "And it shall come to pass in that day, declares YHVH of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and I will burst your bonds, and foreigners shall no more make a servant of him. But they shall serve YHVH their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

-This is to the two houses that represent his eternal people. In the new covenant scroll (Jeremiah 30-31) towards the end of it are two separate sections are devoted to stressing the eternal security of his people and they will always be his people. The promise is sure and it's these two houses, Israel and Judah, that this new covenant scroll is directed and based on what we read in the new covenant prophecy it's to whom the new covenant is given. It's talking about a people. YHVH is talking to Israel and to Judah, you cannot spiritualize this to say that it's talking about someone else. I'm going to make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt. Which my covenant, they broke. He's talking about a people, Israel and Judah. That's who the new covenant is to.

-Isa 56:3-8 Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to YHVH say, "YHVH will surely separate me from his people"; and let not the eunuch say, "Behold, I am a dry tree." For thus says YHVH: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, I will give in my house and within my walls a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. "And the foreigners who join themselves to YHVH, to minister to him, to love the name of YHVH, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." The Lord YHVH, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, "I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

-Jer 30:4-9 These are the words that YHVH spoke to Israel and Judah: "Thus says YHVH: We have heard a cry of panic, of terror, and no peace. Ask now, and see, can a man bear a child? Why then do I see every man with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor? Why has every face turned pale? Alas! That day is so great there is none like it; it is a time of distress for Jacob; yet he shall be saved out of it. "And it shall come to pass in that day, declares YHVH of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and I will burst your bonds, and foreigners shall no more make a servant of him. But they shall serve YHVH their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

-Out of this Jacob will be saved. It even described in terms of delivery. Why do I see men holding themselves like they are having a baby? It's like labor pains and it's so intense. Yet YHVH says relax, you will be delivered from this. The rabbi's really talk about the birth pangs, bringing in what they call the messianic age. Then it goes on to talk about the slavery from Egypt. There is an association in Jeremiah's mind it's the delivery of this people and he constantly refers back to that. This great thing is described in Deuteronomy 4. He's making connections back to it. He's often associating with it in Jeremiah 16:14-16 and Jeremiah 23:5-7 where he says, days are coming says YHVH when I will deliver the children of Israel from all the nations. This is like a great exodus. It's going to be so great they will not even talk about the exodus from Egypt.

-Jer 16:14-16 "Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares YHVH, when it shall no longer be said, 'As YHVH lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' but 'As YHVH lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.' For I will bring them back to their own land that I gave to their fathers. "Behold, I am sending for many fishers, declares YHVH, and they shall catch them. And afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the clefts of the rocks.

-Jer 30:10-11 "Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares YHVH, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with you to save you, declares YHVH; I will make a full end of all the nations among whom I scattered you, but of you I will not make a full end. I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished.

-In these verses there is a focus on the servant Jacob. It's talking about delivery from a faraway land and the enemy is destroyed and Israel is saved. Again, this is the Exodus

motif. When the children of Israel leave Egypt, they're saved and the Egyptians are destroyed.

-Jer 30:12-17 "For thus says YHVH: Your hurt is incurable, and your wound is grievous. There is none to uphold your cause, no medicine for your wound, no healing for you. All your lovers have forgotten you; they care nothing for you; for I have dealt you the blow of an enemy, the punishment of a merciless foe, because your guilt is great, because your sins are flagrant. Why do you cry out over your hurt? Your pain is incurable. Because your guilt is great, because your sins are flagrant, I have done these things to you. Therefore all who devour you shall be devoured, and all your foes, every one of them, shall go into captivity; those who plunder you shall be plundered, and all who prey on you I will make a prey. For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares YHVH, because they have called you an outcast: 'It is Zion, for whom no one cares!'

-This is a description where there is no remedy. The people are sick, wounded, forgotten and forsaken and they have many sins and iniquities. This section is devoted to describing the current state of Israel and Judah to whom the new covenant scroll is addressed. They are in bad shape and there is no remedy.

-Jer 30:18-22 "Thus says YHVH: 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. Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who celebrate. I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will make them honored, and they shall not be small. Their children shall be as they were of old, and their congregation shall be established before me, and I will punish all who oppress them. Their prince shall be one of themselves; their ruler shall come out from their midst; I will make him draw near, and he shall approach me, for who would dare of himself to approach me? declares YHVH. And you shall be my people, and I will be your God."

-This talks about the tents and dwelling of Jacob, this was used in one other place in the wilderness where Balaam says, how goodly are your tents O Jacob, your dwellings O Israel. This pagan prophet gets to see all the way forward and see's the new covenant scroll. (Numbers 24:5) What this section is talking about with more detail is the bringing back of the captivity, people and places are restored and rebuilt and the enemy is punished and the righteous leaders are restored. You shall be my people and I will be your God.

-Jer 30:23 – Jer 31:1 Behold the storm of YHVH! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The fierce anger of YHVH will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intentions of his mind. In the latter days you will understand this. "At that time, declares YHVH, I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they shall be my people."

-This highlights the above points, YHVH's purposes are done and in the latter day's you'll understand this. This indicates that the Jeremiah scroll is going to be given a long time ago, but it will be understood in the latter days.

-Jer 31:2-6 Thus says YHVH: "The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, YHVH appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. 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. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit. For there shall be a day when watchmen will call in the hill country of Ephraim: 'Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to YHVH our God.'

-Those who have escaped the sword find grace in the wilderness. YHVH appears from far away and he's affirming his eternal love and loyalty, promising to rebuild, and there is even talk of planting a vineyard in the hills of Samaria. Watchmen, let us go to Zion.

-Jer 31:7-9 For thus says YHVH: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O YHVH, save your people, the remnant of Israel.' Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

-Here YHVH tells an unnamed group what to say. These are among the nations, these people among the nations have a part in this. Do you know what they are supposed to say? Save O YHVH your people. YHVH begins to say how he is going to do it.

Jeremiah's new covenant scroll identifies Ephraim as God's son.

-Jer 50:4-6 "In those days and in that time, declares YHVH, the people of Israel and the people of Judah shall come together, weeping as they come, and they shall seek YHVH their God. They shall ask the way to Zion, with faces turned toward it, saying, 'Come, let us join ourselves to YHVH in an everlasting covenant that will never be forgotten.' "My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray, turning them away on the mountains. From mountain to hill they have gone. They have forgotten their fold.

-Jer 31:10-15 "Hear the word of YHVH, 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.' For YHVH has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of YHVH, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more. 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 YHVH." Thus says YHVH: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."

-This scattered flock, it describes the redemption and the ransom of a people who are now known as the lost sheep of the house of Israel. They have been scattered. Somehow a shepherd is going to bring them back. When they come they will be weeping. There is a lot of weeping in this new covenant scroll. Rachel is weeping because her son is not. Scripturally, Rachel's son who she weeps for is Joseph. And "he is not" is the very way that everyone described Joseph.

-Gen 42:13 And they said, "We, your servants, are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan, and behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is no more."

-Gen 42:32 We are twelve brothers, sons of our father. One is no more, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.'

-If you want to understand the Hebrew prophets you have to understand the Hebrew Scriptures. You cannot impose your own ideas on them it doesn't work.

-Gen 37:29-35 When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes and returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is gone, and I, where shall I go?" Then they took Joseph's robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said, "This we have found; please identify whether it is your son's robe or not." And he identified it and said, "It is my son's robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces." Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, "No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." Thus his father wept for him.

-Joseph is thought to be dead, but guess what, he's not dead. Everyone said he is dead, but he is not.

-Gen 45:25-28 So they went up out of Egypt and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. And they told him, "Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." And his heart became numb, for he did not believe them. But when they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. And Israel said, "It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

-This is the greatest story, Joseph is still alive.

-Jer 31:16-20 Thus says YHVH: "Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares YHVH, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope for your future, declares YHVH, and your children shall come back to their own country. I have heard Ephraim grieving, 'You have disciplined me, and I was disciplined, like an untrained calf; bring me back that I may be restored, for you are YHVH my God. For after I had turned away, I relented, and after I was instructed, I struck my thigh; I was ashamed, and I was confounded, because I bore the disgrace of my youth.' Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he my darling child? For as often as I speak against him, I do remember him still. Therefore my heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him, declares YHVH.

-In these verses that same joyous message is given as we read in Genesis 45 when we find out that Joseph is still alive. The message in the new covenant scroll is this, stop your weeping. He's coming home, your son who you thought was dead is alive, Ephraim, God's firstborn son will return. Rachel was weeping for Ephraim now hear the word of YHVH.

-Jer 31:20 Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he my darling child? For as often as I speak against him, I do remember him still. Therefore my heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him, declares YHVH.

-Not only does God say who his son is he describes a yearning in his heart. Every time I speak of him. Now how do we return? How does this new covenant group return? This new covenant scroll continues.

-Jer 31:21-30 "Set up road markers for yourself; make yourself guideposts; consider well the highway, the road by which you went. Return, O virgin Israel, return to these your

cities. How long will you waver, O faithless daughter? For YHVH has created a new thing on the earth: a woman encircles a man." Thus says YHVH of hosts, the God of Israel: "Once more they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its cities, when I restore their fortunes: "'YHVH bless you, O habitation of righteousness, O holy hill!' And Judah and all its cities shall dwell there together, and the farmers and those who wander with their flocks. For I will satisfy the weary soul, and every languishing soul I will replenish." At this I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me. "Behold, the days are coming, declares YHVH, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and the seed of beast. 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 YHVH. In those days they shall no longer say: "'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.' But everyone shall die for his own iniquity. Each man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge.

-In summary this says, follow the way in which you came, return the way you came. Set up road marks for yourself, sign posts. Then a virgin appears in our story in our new covenant scroll. Not the likely virgin, one who people talk about in the streets, the rumors, she's considered not a good girl. She's promiscuous, she's rebellious, but in God's eyes she's the pure chaste virgin that he met in the wilderness. He says, return O virgin; follow the signs. I believe that that's going on in our day.

-You can't read through this text without touching on the way this vision ends with God's dream. At this I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me. Read this in context, this is not Jeremiah speaking, this is YHVH speaking. You may be thinking, he who watches Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps. This is a poetic image that should knock your socks off.

-The God of all creation says, and with that I awoke. It's God's Dream. It's the new covenant scroll. It's the restoration of all. The impure wife has become a virgin. Who would have thought it? The son that people thought was dead has come back to life. The key, an important part of this is that one must pay for one's sins.

-Jer 31:29-30 In those days they shall no longer say: "'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.' But everyone shall die for his own iniquity. Each man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge.

-Deu 24:16 "Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. Each one shall be put to death for his own sin.

-In the new covenant scroll one cannot die for the sins of another. It's very important that we get that, that in context this is stated. Right after it says what we read in Jeremiah 31:29-30. Do you know what the very next word is? We have to understand that we have to pay the price. This then brings us to the new covenant prophecy.

-Jer 31:31-34 "Behold, the days are coming, declares YHVH, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares YHVH. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares YHVH: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know YHVH,' for they shall all know me, from the least of

them to the greatest, declares YHVH. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

-This is part of an ancient scroll and the purpose of which is to announce that Israel, Ephraim, God's son is returning as it were from the dead. Ezekiel 37 describes the valley of dry bones. What is this son of man can these bones live? Ezekiel says, you Lord know. The bones represent the whole house of Israel, Ephraim and Judah. There is a process by which the son of God must come back from the dead.

-Jer 31:35-40 Thus says YHVH, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— YHVH of hosts is his name: "If this fixed order departs from before me, declares YHVH, then shall the offspring of Israel cease from being a nation before me forever." Thus says YHVH: "If the heavens above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth below can be explored, then I will cast off all the offspring of Israel for all that they have done, declares YHVH." "Behold, the days are coming, declares YHVH, when the city shall be rebuilt for YHVH 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 YHVH. It shall not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever."

-This is how you do it, prophecy and speak the word of YHVH. The first thing that has to go forward is the word of YHVH, not some watered down weak message, and not the opinions of teachers that don't stick to the text, the word of YHVH. Even that won't bring the bones together, it doesn't bring life into them. They are lifeless but together at least. What ultimately has to happen is that Ezekiel has to prophecy to the Spirit. And the Spirit breathes on these slain that they live and stand up in his sight, a very great army. This coming forth of the son occurs on the third day.

-Hos 6:1-2 "Come, let us return to YHVH; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.

-If you go back and look at when the Northern Kingdom was taken up into captivity by Assyria and you do the math, today, we are in the third day. Israel has to repent. To go from being this rebellious, promiscuous women that Israel is recognized as, is Jacob the whole. To go from this to being a virgin, Israel must repent.

-The new covenant scroll and the new covenant prophecies promise that after this, we have to pay for your own sins. The only way to remedy this is to seek repentance. Then iniquities are forgiven, sins will not be remembered, and the Torah will be written on the hearts.

-Jer 32:37-41 Behold, I will gather them from all the countries to which I drove them in my anger and my wrath and in great indignation. I will bring them back to this place, and I will make them dwell in safety. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

-YHVH sent a word to Jeremiah about a new covenant and in the new covenant scroll (Chapters 30 & 31) in those 18 sections material supports the general thrust of what the new covenant is about. It's about God fulfilling the promise that he made from the beginning. And he says that I will bring that group back and plant them in this land with all my heart and with all my soul. That is Jeremiah's new covenant scroll explained as best as I can.

Shabbat Shalom and Shavua Tov; See you next week!

THIS WEEK IN TORAH

FEBRUARY 16, 2019

This week's Torah Portion "Tetzaveh" (You Command): (Exodus 27:20 - 30:10) Oil for the lamp; The Priests garments, The Kohanim and their vestments; The vestments; The ephod; The settings; Breastplate of Judgment; Robe of the ephod; Head plate; Tunic; Vestments of the ordinary Kohanim; Inauguration ritual; Consecration of the Priests, The tamid offering; The altar of incense.

"This Week in Torah" FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

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-UIWU Facebook Website: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/unitedisraelworldunion/>

-UIWU Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/unitedisrael/>

-UIWU President, Tabor Blog, Religion Matters from the Bible to the Modern World:

<https://jamestabor.com/>

-UIWU Executive Vice-President, Ralph Buntyn, "Remembering David Horowitz":

<https://unitedisrael.org/category/remembering-david-horowitz/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

-Blossoming Rose Israel Tours, February 18-28, 2019: <https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/>

-Israel Coming Home Tour: February 24 - March 7, 2019: Features the teaching of our Orthodox Jewish guide, Hanoch Young.

<https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/israel-coming-home-tour/>

-Tabor & Nichols 2019 Israel Tour, March 1-12, 2019:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcKWxiufESE> & <https://rossknichols.com/tabor-nichols-2019-israel-tour/>

-UIWU 76th Annual Meeting and Conference, April 26-28, 2019, Charlotte, NC:

<https://uiwu.unitedisrael.org/conference-2019/>

-UNCC Mt. Zion Archaeological Project, Dig Mt. Zion (2019):

<https://digmountzion.uncc.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/digmountzion/>