

FULFILLMENT OF THE PROMISE

Jeremiah 52

Jeremiah's call 1

Messages concerning Judah 2-45

Messages concerning the nations 46-51

HISTORICAL APPENDIX 52

Historical commentary demonstrates that **God fulfills His Word.**

Three events from Jeremiah's lifetime demonstrate that truth.

Three events have direct relationship to Davidic covenant.

Past: God gives a covenant –Davidic Covenant

2 Sam. 7:1-17 Ps. 89:1-37

1. What happened before God established the covenant? 1-3

2. How did God respond to David's wish? 4-7

3. What did He promise to David? 11-16

Until when?

What does David have to do to receive the promise?

What will happen if he disobeys?

How should we understand this today? (Present situation re: Israel)

Present: Meaning for Jeremiah's day

Jeremiah would have been aware of preceding covenant provisions.

In Jer. 52, Jeremiah comments concerning events taking place in his lifetime.

God promised to David and his descendants a throne forever.

Why did God permit this captivity?

What happened to God's promise and plan?

Ch. 52 provides the answers.

DEFEAT OF ZEDEKIAH 52:1-11

What caused the judgment described? 1-3

What's the result of their sin? 4-11

How do these events relate to the provisions of the Davidic Covenant?

Story of Zedekiah demonstrates that God sent judgment against him because of his sin.

He was disqualified as king and removed from office due to his disobedience.

This agrees with what God taught in Davidic covenant:

Enjoyment of right to rule on David's throne is based on submission to God's authority.

DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM 52:12-30

Story continues: further result of sin is destruction of the city.

Babylon takes control of the city,

takes most of the people captive

and leaves a small, poor remnant to work the land.

Cause is still the same: God disciplined His people as He said He would, in order to bring them to repentance.

Put yourself in Israel's place. If you'd been carried off to Babylon, what would be one idea that would be on your mind?

PRESERVATION OF JEHOIACHIN 52:31-34

What happened in Babylon? 31-34

What significance might this event have?

What relationship might there be between this and the Davidic Covenant?

Why does Jeremiah mention this here?

Since Jehoiachin had not died, he's still the legitimate kind of Israel.

He's protected and honored in Babylon.

Final story deals with Jehoiachin, the legitimate heir to David's throne.

In spite of the destruction of the city and the captivity,

he's well cared for in Babylon.

Though God has judged His people, His purpose is corrective.

It is a sign of His love, not of their rejection.

At the right time they'll be restored.

Jehoiachin is left in Babylon as a visible testimony of God's love and of their hope for the future.

God will again fulfill His promise and restore His people.

Future: Aspects of covenant fulfilled after Jeremiah's time:

Jeremiah promised restoration.

He doesn't mention fulfillment of his promise.

Certain aspects were fulfilled at end of the captivity.

Others weren't fulfilled then.

Passages demonstrate fulfillment after Jeremiah's time:

Luke 1:26-38

Concerning what event do these verses speak?

What do they say that might catch the eye of David or Jeremiah?

What does this indicate about the Davidic Covenant?

Matt. 23:37-39

What do vss. 37-38 indicate which might affect God's plan to fulfill the Davidic Covenant?

What is the result of the response of the people? V. 39

How do these verses relate to the Davidic Covenant?

How do they relate to Israel today? Rom. 11:11, 25-27

Rev. 22:16-17

Of whom does the passage speak?

What relationship does He have with David?

What do these verses indicate concerning the Davidic Covenant?

Review the Plan again

In light of this plan, how should we today respond?

God has been faithful in the fulfillment of His promises to Israel, what about His promises to us?

What are some of the promises we can expect God to fulfill in our lives?

Are there specific areas we've seen in Jeremiah where we need to learn to trust Him? [Pick one—let's ask God's help to fulfill our responsibility.]

Theological lessons:

God hasn't finished with His people (Israel) yet.

When they return to Him, He still promises to restore them.

God's attitude concerning sin

God's love for His people, even when they fail Him.

God's discipline is applied to correct His straying people.

Religion and Ceremony

Practical lessons:

Relationship to God's people in 21st century

Relationship to us as God's people.

How are we similar?

How are we different?

National people of God – Israel

Ecclesiastical people of God – the church

The two are not to be confused.

Israel and the church are distinct

God will fulfill His unconditional covenants to Israel – *not* to us.

Both are visibly present as God's people.

Both contain unregenerate members, as visible entities.

God demands a holy life, as a testimony.

Holy God demands holy people. *"Be ye holy, for I am holy!"*

Relationship to pagan nations today

How do these warnings apply to kings, etc., today?

Many see these warnings as warnings to government today.

God judges all people.

Unregenerate people cannot live a holy life.

Need to trust God, then obey Him.

FAITH VS. TOKENISM

People are willing to do all kinds of things to please God,
but they will not trust Him.

Israel – unbelief, disobedience, but always offered their sacrifices.

L.A. Catholicism – unbelief, disobedience, but tremendous processions

Protestantism – unbelief, disobedience, but offerings, church attendance

What other examples are there in the U.S. today?

Do we have any evangelical rituals? What are they?

What's the danger?

External rituals of worship aren't enough!

God wants intimate communion we enjoy when we trust Him.

What does God want? Faith or ceremony?

He who trusts God in truth will desire to please Him.

God wants us to love Him and trust Him.