

POWER HOUR

7/5/2026

Lesson Text:
Jeremiah 3:11-20

Related Scriptures:
Acts 2:36-41; 1 Peter 5:1-4;
Ezekiel 37:15-28;
Revelation 7:4-12 &
Jeremiah 3:1-10

“GOD GATHERS ALL NATIONS”

NLT TRANSLATION

Golden Text: In that day Jerusalem will be known as ‘The Throne of the Lord.’ All nations will come there to honor the Lord. They will no longer stubbornly follow their own evil desires. Jeremiah 3:17 NLT

Time: between 627 and 609 B.C.

Place: Jerusalem

Jeremiah 3:11-20 NLT

¹¹ Then the Lord said to me, “Even faithless Israel is less guilty than treacherous Judah! ¹² Therefore, go and give this message to Israel. This is what the Lord says: “O Israel, my faithless people, come home to me again, for I am merciful. I will not be angry with you forever. ¹³ Only acknowledge your guilt. Admit that you rebelled against the Lord your God and committed adultery against him by worshiping idols under every green tree. Confess that you refused to listen to my voice. I, the Lord, have spoken! ¹⁴ “Return home, you wayward children,” says the Lord, “for I am your master. I will bring you back to the land of Israel— one from this town and two from that family—from wherever you are scattered. ¹⁵ And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will guide you with knowledge and understanding. ¹⁶ “And when your land is once more filled with people,” says the Lord, “you will no longer wish for ‘the good old days’ when you possessed the Ark of the Lord’s Covenant. You will not miss those days or even remember them, and there will be no need to rebuild the Ark. ¹⁷ In that day Jerusalem will be known as ‘The Throne of the Lord.’ All nations will come there to honor the Lord. They will no longer stubbornly follow their own evil desires. ¹⁸ In those days the people of Judah and Israel will return together from exile in the north. They will return to the land I gave your ancestors as an inheritance forever.

¹⁹ “I thought to myself, ‘I would love to treat you as my own children!’

I wanted nothing more than to give you this beautiful land—the finest possession in the world. I looked forward to your calling me ‘Father,’ and I wanted you never to turn from me. ²⁰ But you have been unfaithful to me, you people of Israel! You have been like a faithless wife who leaves her husband. I, the Lord, have spoken.”

INTRODUCTION

This is from the beginning of Jeremiah’s ministry, during King Josiah’s reign (Jeremiah 3:6). Despite Josiah’s attempts at reform, the people did not truly repent. God uncovered their sin by comparing them to the exiled Israel.

However, God loves His wayward children and will always forgive those who repent. No matter how badly we sinned, The Lord is ready to forgive us.

In this passage, Jeremiah used the themes of exile and inheritance to point to God’s mercy. There would be a historical return from exile for Judah, but there would also be a greater future repentance when the Lord returns.

Additional Scripture Readings

The Regathering of Israel Foretold. Deuteronomy 30:1-10.

A New Heart Promised. Ezekiel 36:22-38.

The Spirit Given to All Who Repent. Acts 2:36—41.

The Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit. Acts 11:1-18.

Judah and Israel Will Be Reunified. Ezekiel 37:15-28.

Israel and Gentiles Together in Heaven. Revelation 7:4-12.

A Call to Return to The Lord. Jeremiah 3:11-20.

1. The call for Israel to return (Jeremiah 3:11-13). Jeremiah began this section of his prophecy with a proclamation for Israel. This proclamation would have shocked his audience since Israel had already been exiled (2 Kings 17:7-23). Judah’s sin, however, was worse than that of Israel—another startling statement given that the people of Judah prided themselves on having access to the temple in Jerusalem. The fact remained, however, that people of Judah worshipped the Lord God wrongly, walking in sin with a mere outward show of repentance (Jeremiah 3:6-10).

Consequently, they—like Israel—had broken the covenant and would be removed from God's presence in the land of their inheritance (2 Kings 17:19). However, by addressing Israel in this prophecy, God was showing His faithfulness to His unfaithful people.

2. God promise to Israel (Jeremiah 3:14-18). Despite the faithlessness of Israel, God invited them to return to Him, using the metaphor of a wayward wife returning to her husband. With their repentance, He would bring them back into the Promised Land, just as He had said He would if they repented while in exile (Deuteronomy 30:1-10).

Jeremiah's prophecy exceeds the historical returns from exile, pointing to the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:2-3). God will fulfill His promises when Jesus returns again, fully dwelling with those who have been faithful to Him (Revelation 7:5-12).

3. The unfaithfulness of Israel (Jeremiah 3:19-20). The Lord promised rescue despite Israel and Judah's continued lack of repentance. God knew they would never fully repent. He would have welcomed them back to Him with open arms, yet they never kept His covenant.

Jeremiah's prophecy stood as a witness against the sin of Judah, yet it also offered hope. God would make a way for them to return despite the fact that His people would continue in unrepentance. God would provide salvation by writing a new covenant on His people's hearts.

PRACTICAL POINTS

Our assessment of how righteous someone is can often be mistaken (Jeremiah 3:11).

The Lord urges His children to repent and will always welcome them back if they return to Him (vss. 12-14).

Godly leaders are a blessing. Ask the Lord for godly leaders (vs. 15)!

We experience greater blessings than old covenant Israel (vs. 16).

God's children include people from all nations, and we should seek to reach them all (vss. 17-18).

The Lord is eager to bless His people, so they must turn to Him (vs. 19).

If we are faithless, we should repent (vs. 20)

CONCLUSION

Jeremiah's prophecy stood as a witness against the sin of Judah, yet it also offered hope. God would make a way for them to return despite the fact that His people would continue in unrepentance. God would provide salvation by writing a new covenant on His people's hearts.

The promise of dwelling in God's glorious presence remains. We experience this in part when we are united with Christ through faith and are indwelled by the Spirit. We will experience its fullness when Jesus returns to rule the earth in glory. Do you have trouble believing this promise? Do the troubles of this world overwhelm your soul? Take time to pray over the difficulties of this life while meditating on the perfect peace in Jesus.

Next week, we will explore God's promise to send a righteous King in the line of David to rescue His people. **"God Sends A Righteous Branch.**

Jeremiah 23:1-8. *Union Gospel Press, LifeStone*