



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

JEREMIAH 23:1-8

LESSON: GOD SENDS A RIGHTEOUS BRANCH

July 12, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

In **Chapter 22** God's Warnings goes out to the kings of Judah

¹God says to the prophet Jeremiah, *"I want you to go up and talk to the king himself, face to face."*

- **A Warning to Judah's Kings**

¹ This is what the LORD says: "Go down to the palace of the king of Judah and proclaim this message there, ² saying, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, who sits on the throne of David—you and your officials and your people who enter these gates. ³ This is what the LORD says: Administer justice and righteousness. Rescue the victim of robbery from the hand of his oppressor. Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner, the fatherless, or the widow. Do not shed innocent blood in this place."

- **A Warning about the Palace**

⁷ I will appoint destroyers against you, each man with his weapons, and they will cut down the choicest of your cedars, and throw them into the fire.

- **A Warning about Shallum**

¹¹ For this is what the LORD says concerning Shallum son of Josiah, king of Judah, who succeeded his father Josiah but has gone forth from this place: "He will never return, ¹² but he will die in the place to which he was exiled; he will never see this land again."

- **A Warning about Jehoiakim**

¹³ "Woe to him who builds his palace by unrighteousness, and his upper rooms without justice, who makes his countrymen serve without pay, and fails to pay their wages,

- **A Warning to Coniah**

²⁴ "As surely as I live," declares the LORD, "even if you, Coniah son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, were a signet ring on My right hand, I would pull you off. ²⁶ I will hurl you and the mother who gave you birth into another land, where neither of you were born—and there you both will die. ²⁷ You will never return to the land for which you long. ³⁰ This is what the LORD says: "Enroll this man as childless, a man who will not prosper in his lifetime. None of his descendants will prosper to sit on the throne of David or to rule again in Judah."

LESSON:

I. JEREMIAH 23:1-4

23:1 **Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the Lord.** The Lord God speaks through Jeremiah a pronouncement of "Woe" upon Judah's pastors; some versions say shepherds. Jeremiah was an Old Testament prophet of doom and gloom, for he was sent to prophesy God's judgment. This verse's declaration is because the pastors/shepherds have destroyed and scattered the sheep. They've done the exact opposite of the basic requirements for any shepherd. "Woe" means a judgment of deep despair and/or curse. ²Who are these shepherds?

¹ <https://biblehub.com/bsb/jeremiah/22.htm#10>

² <http://www.raystedman.org/old-testament/jeremiah/why-the-land-mourns>

<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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They are the kings of the nation; rulers and government leaders of God. ³The first two verses of this passage address Jehoiakim's and Zedekiah's failed leadership that led to exile. A shepherd's role was to gather the sheep together, and protect them. The shepherds of Judah, however, made policy decisions that placed the people in peril and ultimately led into their exile. By right of their office, the kings of Judah had exerted a tremendous influence on the people, scattering them away from God. Remember the people are the sheep of His pasture. The sheep do not belong to the rulers, but God is the true Shepherd.

23:2 Therefore thus saith the Lord God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the Lord. God makes it clearer and clearer to these pastors/shepherds of their error who were responsible for guiding and caring for God's people, but failed in their duties as they fed God's people. If the message they bring is truth, it brings life, and health, and joy in the LORD. If the message they bring is not truth, then it brings death to the body and the soul.

- they drove the people away; scattered the flock
- they didn't even visit the people.

It was really the leaders who had scattered the people to the foreign lands with their false worship. Therefore, as they did not do what God required of them, God lets them know that they have not gotten away with their evil. God will pour out judgment upon them as they had done themselves.

23:3 And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. After telling the pastors/shepherds what they didn't do, and what will happen to them, God turns around and tells them what He will do to fix this problem. The sheep were scattered by the false shepherds, but God also states here that He had also driven them. This happened at the end of the Babylonian captivity. However, He will be the One who will regather and bring His remnant out of all those countries they were driven to. He knows where they are. The people would be brought back to the land after the Babylonian captivity. A remnant will return (*those that have escaped destruction*), and they will be fruitful and increase. The result is that ⁴*The failure of human leaders prepares us for the intervention of God.* When people in our lives fail us, look for God to step in. Disappointment with leaders and frustration of things that we sometimes think we aren't supposed to feel as Christians, we come to realize how that disappointment opens us up to God's work within. He is able to regather or bring you back to the fold and enable you to be fruitful and multiply.

23:4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord. Though the former pastors/shepherds didn't take care of the people, God will appoint and set-up responsible shepherds to care and feed His people. This Shepherd will not cause the people to fear, nor

³ http://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?lect_date=7/22/2012&tab=1

⁴ Discovery Publishing © 2009. www.pbc.org
<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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be dismayed, neither lacking nor none of them missing.

II. JEREMIAH 23:5-6

23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. This phrase introduces a prophetic announcement, indicating a future event that is certain to occur. **"Behold, the days are coming"**, spoken by the Lord through Jeremiah. For them Jeremiah raises a ray of hope. God will honor this Covenant with David (2Sam.7:1-25). A *"Righteous Branch"* shall reign as king. He would be a *"branch"* coming from David's lineage. Isaiah wrote in Issiah11:1 (KJV) *"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:"* The term *"branch"* means ⁵*"shoot" or "sprout"*, which signifies the new life that the Messiah was to bring to the Davidic monarchy, which was presumed dead. ⁶The branch of David through Jehoiachin had been *"cut off."* However, God promised to raise up to David another King who would be a righteous Branch, that is, another member of the Davidic line. He will then execute judgment and justice in the land. ⁷Christ is here spoken of as the branch from David. His appearance means His beginnings is small, like those of a bud or sprout, and His rise seemingly out of the earth.

23:6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, The Lord Our Righteousness. During the Righteous King's reign, *"Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, 'the LORD our Righteousness' (vv. 5-6; cf. 3:17; 33:16; Ezekiel 48:35; 1 Corinthians 1:30).*

⁸This title is a translation of " J e h o v a h T s i d k e n u." Interestingly, the term Tsidkenu is another form of the name Zedekiah. This was the name of the King who was ruling in Judah when Jeremiah made this prophecy. The name Zedekiah means "The Lord is my Righteousness." But King Zedekiah was far from righteous in his own life!

Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of this prediction. The Southern Kingdom (Judah) and the Northern Kingdom (Israel) will again be reunited as a single nation and will live in safety (Ezek. 37:15-28). Therefore, Jesus is OUR righteousness! He did all things justly! And out of the fallen dynasty of Israel, life would spring through Christ, the Messiah, upon whom the nation, as well as the world's hopes would rest.

III. JEREMIAH 23:7-8

23:7 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that they shall no more say, The Lord liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;— Jeremiah now says the restoration will be so dramatic that the people will no longer look back to the time when they will say *"The Lord liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt."* The Exodus was needed, but God has a better plan for the future, for the Messiah's reign will be "Great" that it will overpower the Exodus itself.

23:8 But, The Lord liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel

⁵ <http://www.studytoanswer.net/judaism/jahtsidqenu.html>

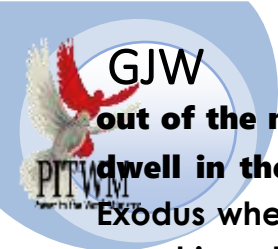
⁶ <https://www.family-times.net/commentary/looking-forward-to-the-lords-return-jeremiah-23-1/>

⁷ <http://biblebrowser.com/jeremiah/23-4.htm>

⁸ <http://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/a-reason-to-rejoice-k-edward-skidmore-sermon-on-christmas-74664.asp?page=3>

<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land. Again,⁹the first Exodus will be minor in comparison with this new Exodus when God will bring the descendants (the seed of the house) of Israel out of all the countries where they have been and, will restore them to their own land. This change signifies a new, significant event in Israel's history. ¹⁰This return is not just physical but also spiritual, pointing to a renewed relationship with God. It also foreshadows the ultimate restoration and peace found in the Messianic kingdom, which Christians see fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

SUMMARY:

This chapter begins with *“Woe to pastors/shepherds that destroy and scatter the sheep of His pasture He’s against those who feed His people”* causing them to be scattered, driven away, and not even visited the sheep of the Lord, God lets them know that He will visit them with evil **(23:1-2)**. But God then gives hope that His remnant will be brought back to the fold. They will be fruitful and increase. He goes further by saying that He will set up shepherds over them to properly care for them. They will no longer need to fear, be dismayed or have lack **(23:3-4)**.

Look for the days to come, He says that a Righteous Branch shall rise up and a King shall reign and prosper. He will then execute judgment and justice in the land. Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will be safe, calling His name *“The Lord Our Righteousness”* **(23:5-6)**.

It will be that in a future time the Lord says they will no longer say *“The Lord liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.”* But the Lord says that they will say that *“The Living Lord which brought up and led the seed of the house of Israel out of the North Country, and from all countries whither God had driven them, they will dwell in their own land”* **(23:7-8)**.

APPLICATION:

When God speaks a promise, He is well able to perform it. Are there promises you’re still waiting on? No matter how sinful the nation of Israel was, His judgment was sure and His promises were surer!

⁹ <https://www.family-times.net/commentary/looking-forward-to-the-lords-return-jeremiah-23-1/>

¹⁰ <https://biblehub.com/jeremiah/23-8.htm>

<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>

