

Hope In Jeremiah

Introduction.

- A. Judah has turned their backs on God (ch. 2).
 - 1. Even the prophets say only what the people want to hear.
 - 2. They have turned from God to idols, especially Baal.
- B. God is bringing Babylon against them to punish them for their sin.
- C. Jeremiah is heartbroken at the fate of his people and his nation.
- D. Yet amidst all of this, there is hope for God's people.

I. Hope is rooted in God's sovereign plan (29:11; 30:17, 31:4, 13).

- A. A promise to the nation.
- B. God tells them to settle in, have families, raise children.
- C. God tells them to pray for the prosperity of the nation they are in.
- D. After 70 years, he will bring them back home again.
 - 1. They will seek the LORD.
 - 2. They will prosper back in their homeland.
- E. There will be restoration.
 - 1. He loves with an everlasting love.
 - 2. There will be joy, and dancing, and gladness.

II. Hope is grounded in God, not in his people (31:3; 33:6ff.).

- A. Not in our performance, but in his love.
- B. Because of his unfailing kindness.

III. Hope looks forward to the coming King (23:3-8; 33:6-17).

- A. From the line of David.
- B. His name will be "the LORD."

IV. Hope transforms our attitude (17:7-8; cf. Ps. 1).

- A. Gives stability.
- B. Is not dependent on our circumstances.
- C. The difference between happiness and joy.

V. Hope even in discipline (24:4-7; 36-42).

- A. God uses hardships to bring his people back to him.
- B. God never stops doing good to his people.

VI. Lessons from Jeremiah.

- A. Hope is meaningful when it appears in the middle of brokenness.
- B. Because hope is grounded in God, it has a firm foundation.
- C. Hope is relational – we trust our heavenly Father (cf. Job).
- D. Because the King is coming, we have hope in our Savior.
- E. Hope reshapes how we live today.
- F. God's discipline is redemptive, not punitive.