

Jeremiah prophesies that change is coming. As the people have endured a season of suffering, so will God bring a season of blessing.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 31:27-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say:

"The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on edge."

But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: 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. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD,"

for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 147:1-7 *(8am spoken, 10am sung)*

¹ Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! *

how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

² The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; *

he gathers the exiles of Israel.

³ He heals the brokenhearted *

and binds up their wounds.

⁴ He counts the number of the stars *

and calls them all by their names.

⁵ Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *

there is no limit to his wisdom.

⁶ The LORD lifts up the lowly, *

but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *

make music to our God upon the harp.

Christians must be discerning and humble as they seek God's wisdom. Many become attached to their own ideas and find ideas to suit themselves rather than pursuing the gospel.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy 3:14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord.