

We will not begin the sixteenth lecture on Jeremiah. /Today's message begins with chapter 33. /The title of the chapter is "The Covenant's Fulfillment."

/First, the LORD's judgment and Israel's restoration. /Verses 1-13. /Second, the prophesy of Jesus Christ. /Verse 14-16. /Third, the eternal kingship and priest. /Verses 17-26.

/Verses 1-2. Please read. / While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the LORD came to him a second time: "This is what the LORD says, he who made the earth, the LORD who formed it and established it—the LORD is his name:

/The setting is the courtyard of the prison. /Jeremiah was thrown into prison for delivering the message of God. /Verse 2 tells us that our God forms things and he fulfills his works.

/Verse 3. / 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'

/God tells us to call out to him. /Then he will answer us and tell us things. /We must seek God with all our hearts and cry out to him. /James 1:5-8 /James 4:2

/When we pray, we must not pray out of greed. /The great and unsearchable things refers to the work of salvation through Jesus Christ.

/Verse 4. / For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says about the houses in this city and the royal palaces of Judah that have been torn down to be used against the siege ramps and the sword

/God punishes anyone who has sinned. /Because the people of Judah sinned, God sent the Babylonians. /The Babylonian army came in with swords and siege ramps. /The people of Judah were unable to defeat the Babylonian army.

/Verse 6. / "Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.

/God promises to watch over Jerusalem and heal it. /He also promises peace, faithfulness, and abundance. /He promises the people that they will return home from captivity in Babylon. /God says he will bring everything back to the way they were. /By this, he means back to the way they were when the Israelites escaped Egypt.

/This symbolizes the return to the first spiritual grace and love. /If the people cried out to God with all their hearts, they would be allowed to return home. /They would enjoy freedom of faith, spirit, and conscience.

/Verse 8. / I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me.

/When a believer repents and returns to God, his sins are forgiven. /God says he will save the believer from the forces of sin. /He will give the believer freedom and liberation.  
/Deuteronomy 28:1

/Verse 10. / “This is what the LORD says: ‘You say about this place, “It is a desolate waste, without men or animals.” Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by neither men nor animals, there will be heard once more

/Judah and Jerusalem had become a desolate land. /The land that was desolate would be restored to its normal state. /Now, the sound of grooms and brides will be heard. /There will be a return to the joyful, beautiful times of the past. /The people’s spirits will be brought back to life and thanksgiving and peace will overflow.

/Verse 12. / “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘In this place, desolate and without men or animals—in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks.

/If the people of Judah repent and return to God, the desolate land will become a land of the living. /The desolate land will become a good land to live in. /Sheep will lie down and eat, /and shepherds will have a place to stay.

/Verse 14. / “‘The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

/The verse says there will be a day when God fulfills his gracious promise. /At the time, it was said that Jesus Christ was coming in the future.

/Verse 15. / “‘In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land.

/Here, it says a righteous brand will sprout from David’s line. /This branch is Jesus Christ. /Isaiah 11:1,10 /The verse says “he will do what is just and right in the land.”

/The verse predicts Jesus will carry our sins, die on the cross, and resurrect to life. /Christ’s death and resurrection satisfies God’s righteousness. /Verse 16 says Jerusalem will be a safe place to live.

/Verse 17. / For this is what the LORD says: ‘David will never fail to have a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel,

/God promised David an eternal kingship of David’s line. /God, through Jesus Christ, will built his eternal kingdom.

/Jesus Christ saves us from our sin daily by acting as the high priest. /Verse 18 says Jesus will become our priest. /Our Jesus is an eternal priest. /He is also the eternal king.

/Verses 19-20. / The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: “This is what the LORD says: ‘If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time,

/God’s law of day and night cannot change. /We cannot change the laws of nature. /In the same way, we cannot destroy God’s covenant. /God’s covenant will not be broken, but will be fulfilled.

/Through Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, we receive true salvation. /God will never change his promise of Jesus Christ, but will fulfill it. /Jesus Christ holds eternal kingship and priesthood.

/Verse 22. / I will make the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars of the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore.’”

/Verse 23. / The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:

/God made this promise to Abraham. /Genesis 15:5 /David’s descendants refers to the chosen people of God. /The Levites are those who serve God in the temple.

/In verse 23, God’s word came to Jeremiah. /Here, God speaks of two kingdoms. /The two kingdoms are North Israel and South Judah. /North Israel perished under King Josiah in the hands of the Assyrians. /2 Kings 17:6 /That was in 721 B.C.

/South Judah was taken captive to Babylon three times. /In 586 B.C., it was completely destroyed. /Today, there are Christians who do not believe the power of God’s covenant and word.

/We often do not believe in God’s power and lose hope during times of difficulty. /However, God never abandons his believers. /After testing us, God later blesses us. /Deuteronomy 8:16

/Verse 25. / This is what the LORD says: ‘If I have not established my covenant with day and night and the fixed laws of heaven and earth,

/Verse 26. / then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them.’”

/The laws of day and night cannot change. /The laws of heaven and earth cannot change. /Similarly, God’s covenant never changes. /God promised the Israelites that he would have mercy on them and allow them to return from captivity.

/God also keeps his promises with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. /He keeps the promise of the coming of Jesus Christ. /God is faithful, and his promises are always fulfilled.

/We will continue with our lecture on Jeremiah chapter 34. /The title of chapter 34 is “The Declaration of Freedom.” /First, the prediction of King Zedekiah’s capture. /Verses 1-7. /Second, those who became free become servants once again. /Verses 8-11. /Third, God punishes those who break covenant of freedom.

/Verse 1. Please read. / While Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army and all the kingdoms and peoples in the empire he ruled were fighting against Jerusalem and all its surrounding towns, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD:

/The verse refers to the time King Nebuchadnezzar invaded Judah. /The last king of Judah was King Zedekiah. /God, through Jeremiah, says that Jerusalem will burn and disappear.

/Verse 4. / “Yet hear the promise of the LORD, O Zedekiah king of Judah. This is what the LORD says concerning you: You will not die by the sword;

/God tells Zedekiah to hear what he has to say. /If Zedekiah obeys God, he will not die by the sword. /God’s command was for him to carry the yoke of Babylon.

/Verse 7. / while the army of the king of Babylon was fighting against Jerusalem and the other cities of Judah that were still holding out—Lachish and Azekah. These were the only fortified cities left in Judah.

/During King Zedekiah’s reign, the Babylon king invaded the land and conquered many fortresses.

/Verse 8. / The word came to Jeremiah from the LORD after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people in Jerusalem to proclaim freedom for the slaves.

/King Zedekiah made a covenant with the people and proclaimed freedom for the slaves. /At the time, the people of Judah were holding their own people as slaves.

/God tells King Zedekiah to proclaim freedom for the slaves who are enslaved by their own people. /King Zedekiah and his people then set the slaves free. /Deuteronomy 15:12 /Exodus 21:2

/In this way the slaves were set free. /Today in the era of the New Testament we find freedom in Jesus. /We are free from being slaves to the devil and to sin. /Our souls are now free. /Luke 4:18,19 /2 Corinthians 3:17

/Verse 11. / But afterward they changed their minds and took back the slaves they had freed and enslaved them again.

/However, after freeing their slaves, the slave masters enslaved their former slaves again. /During a time of crisis, the people obeyed God’s word and set the slaves free.

/However, when they became comfortable again, the slave masters disobeyed God and took their own people as slaves.

/What did King Zedekiah do wrong? /First, he disobeyed the word of God. /Second, he broke his promise with the people. /He had betrayed the covenant. /Third, he did not love his neighbors. /He had fallen into selfishness. /The people too did not love their brothers. /1 John 3:14

/Verse 13. / “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I made a covenant with your forefathers when I brought them out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. I said,

/God led the Israelites out of Egypt. /He made a covenant with the Israelites. /Exodus 21:2 /Deuteronomy 15:12-18 /However, the Israelites did not obey the covenant.

/Verse 15. / Recently you repented and did what is right in my sight: Each of you proclaimed freedom to his countrymen. You even made a covenant before me in the house that bears my Name.

/After freeing their slaves, the people changed their minds and enslaved their countrymen. /They had committed the sin of breaking the covenant. /They had made dirty the name of God. /They had covered the glory of God. /They had sinned in deceiving their neighbors and abusing them.

/Verse 17. /”Therefore, this is what the LORD says: You have not obeyed me; you have not proclaimed freedom for your fellow countrymen. So I now proclaim ‘freedom’ for you, declares the LORD—‘freedom’ to fall by the sword, plague and famine. I will make you abhorrent to all the kingdoms of the earth.

/Because the people of Judah disobeyed God, God says he will punish them by the sword, plague, and famine. /God says he will put upon them three forms of punishment. /These three are punishments by the sword, plague, and famine.

/When we go against God’s commands, God will push us away. /Revelation 3:10 /Romans 1:26 /We must love our brothers. /We must untie the ropes that hold them. /We must not oppress our brothers.

/Verse 18. / The men who have violated my covenant and have not fulfilled the terms of the covenant they made before me, I will treat like the calf they cut into two and then walked between its pieces.

/In the Old Testament, the covenant was made with the breaking of the calf. /If the covenant were not kept, the people would be cut into two like the calf. /Genesis 15:10 /By breaking the covenant, the people of Judah would die in the hands of their enemies.

/Verses 21-22. / “I will hand Zedekiah king of Judah and his officials over to their enemies who seek their lives, to the army of the king of Babylon, which has withdrawn

from you. I am going to give the order, declares the LORD, and I will bring them back to this city. They will fight against it, take it and burn it down. And I will lay waste the towns of Judah so no one can live there.”

/King Zedekiah and his people betrayed the covenant with God. /God became angry and declared he will bring back the king of Babylon. /God declares he will use the king of Babylon to destroy Judah.

/We will continue with the lecture on Jeremiah chapter 35. /The title of chapter 35 is “The Recabite Family.”

/First, the Recabite family’s obedience and pious lifestyle. /Verses 1-11. /Second, God rebukes the people of Judah for their disobedience. /Verses 12-17. /Third, God blesses the Recabite family. /Verses 18-19.

/In this chapter, the Recabite family are mentioned. /The Recabite family were pious and faithful in their spiritual life. /They were a good example of faith for the Israelites. /God complimented the descendants of the Recabites for their faith.

/Verses 1-2. Please read. / This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD during the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah: “Go to the Recabite family and invite them to come to one of the side rooms of the house of the LORD and give them wine to drink.”

/This is during the reign of King Jehoiakim. /God tells Jeremiah to bring the Recabite family to a side room of the house of God. /He tells them to drink wine. /But the Recabite family does not drink the wine.

/Through this event, God teaches the people of Judah a lesson. /The Recabite family is from the line of Jethro, Moses’s father-in-law. /These people are descendants of the Kenites. /Isaiah 1:16 /1 Chronicles 2:55

/Verses 3-4. / So I went to get Jaazaniah son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, and his brothers and all his sons—the whole family of the Recabites. I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the room of the sons of Hanan son of Igdaliah the man of God. It was next to the room of the officials, which was over that of Maaseiah son of Shallum the doorkeeper.

/Jeremiah takes the Recabites into a room in the house of God. /There were many powerful people in the house of God. /It was the place where God wanted to give these people and the rest of the people of Judah a lesson.

/Verse 5. / Then I set bowls full of wine and some cups before the men of the Recabite family and said to them, “Drink some wine.”

/Verse 6. / But they replied, “We do not drink wine, because our forefather Jonadab son of Recab gave us this command: ‘Neither you nor your descendants must ever drink wine.

/The Recabites are given wine to drink. /But they say they do not drink wine. /They say it was a command given by their forefather Jonadab. /In this way, the Recabites obeyed the words of their forefathers.

/Jonadab son of Recab was a man living during the reign of King Jehu of North Israel. /2 Kings 10:15 /250 years stood between Jonadab and Jeremiah. /For 250 years, the Recabites had listened to the command of their forefather.

/The Recabite family obeyed the words of the ancestors. /However, the people of Judah did not obey the commands of their forefathers, nor did they listen to God’s commands. / When the Recabites are told to not drink wine, it is telling them to not get drunk.

/Believers must not get drunk in anything of this world. /Our souls must always be awake. /Numbers 6:1-4 /Leviticus 10:1,9 /Verse 7 says the Recabites are never to build houses. /It means to not put hope in the world.

/ “Put your hope in Heaven.” / “We are only travellers in this world.” /These are the lessons being told. /Although we build houses and live in this world, we must put our hope in God. /1 Peter 1:17 /Hebrews 11:13-16

/The verse also forbids the sowing of seed. /It means to refrain from planting our roots into the world. /The verse tells us not to plant vineyards. /In the New Testament, people were permitted to eat grapes. /They were allowed to drink grape wine.

/However, in the Old Testament, Nazirites nor priests drank wine. /A group of distinguished people did not drink wine. /Similarly, the Recabites live several hundred years in piety. /They carried a tradition of good faith.

/Today, we have a tradition of good faith as well. /In the Korean church today, the practice of abstaining from alcohol, /abstaining from smoking, /attending Wednesday services, /attending early morning services, and holding conferences and meetings to study the Bible are all practices of faith. /These are examples of a tradition of good faith. /We must keep such traditions alive.

/Verse 12. / Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying:

/The people of Judah did not listen to the word of God.

/Verse 14. / ‘Jonadab son of Recab ordered his sons not to drink wine and this command has been kept. To this day they do not drink wine, because they obey their forefather’s command. But I have spoken to you again and again, yet you have not obeyed me.

/The Recabites obeyed their forefather's command. /However, even when God sent his prophets to deliver his message, his people did not listen. /Matthew 22:41 /We must obey God's commands. /We must live pious lives. /We must continue the traditions of good faith.

/Verse 15. / Again and again I sent all my servants the prophets to you. They said, "Each of you must turn from your wicked ways and reform your actions; do not follow others gods to serve them. Then you will live in the land I have given to you and your fathers." But you have not paid attention or listened to me.

/God sent his prophets time and time again. /He taught his people to turn away from their evil ways. /God wanted them to abandon the things that were not right.

/We must stop speaking words that are scheming, perverse, envious, and slanderous. /1 Peter 2:1 /We must not worship idols, but we must trust in God. /However, the people of Judah did not listen to the words of the prophets sent by God.

/Verse 16. / The descendants of Jonadab son of Recab have carried out the command their forefather gave them, but these people have not obeyed me.'

/The people of Judah did not listen to God's word, so God said he would bring disaster upon them. /Because they did not listen, God punished them.

/Verses 18-19. / Then Jeremiah said to the family of the Recabites, "This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel says: 'You have obeyed the command of your forefather Jonadab and have followed all his instructions and have done everything he ordered.' Therefore, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'Jonadab son of Recab will never fail to have a man serve me.'"

/The Recabites obeyed the orders of their forefathers. /They lived godly lives. /They also obeyed God's commands. /Therefore, God blessed their descendants.

/God promised that he would never fail to have a descendant of the Recabites serve him. / It would be a blessing for us to stand before a king, but to stand before God is the greatest blessing.

/By living pious lives before God, the Recabites and their descendants were blessed by God. /When we obey God's commands, we too are blessed. /Also, our descendants will receive blessings.

/We need to pass down our faith to our descendants as well. /If we do, our descendants will be blessed.

/This ends the sixteenth lecture on Jeremiah. /Thank you.