

## Jeremiah 33:17-26

The final verses of chapter 33 reinforce, more than once, the promises of God to Israel and the Jewish people are inviolate ("If something's inviolate, it's sacred and must be protected."), secure, irreversible. In these verses the reality that one must destroy night and day to destroy Israel/Jewish people and God's promises to her is stated twice. With the first occurrence in chapter 31 this is a reality stated 3 times. Each of these statements are uniquely tied in with one of the three basic promises of the Abrahamic covenant.

- 17 For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;**  
**18 Neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.**

Vs. 17 The promise of verse 17 reflects back to the most important covenant of Genesis 12:1-3 and specifically verse 2: "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing."

The promise of "**David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel**" is referring to the Davidic Covenant, which is an elaboration on the "seed" promise of Genesis 12:2.

2 Samuel 7:12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

Psalms 89:20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:  
 28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.  
 29 His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.  
 30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;  
 31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;  
 32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.  
 33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.  
 34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.  
 35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.  
 36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.  
 37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

Vs. 18 The promise of verse 18 is that there will be priests and the offering of sacrifices when the Davidic kingdom is set up. This speaks of the Millennial kingdom in which there will be sacrifices and a new system of worship.

### THE NEW SYSTEM OF WORSHIP IN EZEKIEL 43:13- 46

In this section of Ezekiel we are made aware of a Temple, priests, sacrifices, feast days, and a land division of Israel. This is not the continuation of the Mosaic law as that was done away in Messiah Jesus' death and resurrection, Galatians 3:23-25; Colossians 2:14-17; Ephesians 2:15. In the new "economy" of the Millennium there are new worship structures.

1. New worship - Sacrifices, 43:27; Sabbath, 44:24; Passover, 45:21; Tabernacles, 45:25; Zechariah 14; Feasts, 46:9
2. No High Priest is mentioned - see Zechariah 6:12-13
  - 12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:
  - 13 Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

3. No king is mentioned - see Zechariah 14:9, 16-17 (although David as king is mentioned earlier in Ezekiel)
  - 9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.
  - 16 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.
  - 17 And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.
4. No middle wall of partition is present - Ephesians 2:12-14.  
In Jesus' day there were signs written at each gate leading to the inner court stating "No foreigner may enter within the barricade which surrounds the Temple and enclosure. Anyone who is caught doing so will have himself to blame for his ensuing death." Sign discovered in 1871 and now in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum.
5. No court of the women - Galatians 3:26-28.
6. No laver, lampstand, table of shewbread, altar of incense, veil - Hebrews 9:23-24.
7. No ark of the covenant - Jeremiah 3:16-18.
  - 16 And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the LORD: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be done any more.
  - 17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.
  - 18 In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers.

**19 And the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, saying,**

Once again, Jeremiah hears from God.

**20 Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;**

**21 Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.**

**22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.**

Vs. 20-21 - This is essentially a repeat of what God promised in Jeremiah 31:35-36. In the earlier passage it was showing the eternity of the promised NEW COVENANT (the blessing promise of the Abrahamic Covenant, Genesis 12:3). In this passage it is showing the eternal, unconditional promise of the DAVIDIC COVENANT (the seed promise of the Abrahamic Covenant, Genesis 12:2).

Don't miss the emphasis. God is repeating this foundational promise and truth concerning Israel and the Jewish people so none would ever deny it. In order to destroy God's promise(s) to Israel and the Jewish people, one must first destroy the universe. Then, and only then, will their not be a descendant of David sitting on the throne.

Vs. 22 - As it is impossible to number the stars of heaven as well as the sand of the sea, so it is impossible that God won't increase the seed of David and the Levites.

"The total number of stars in the observable universe is estimated to be 1025 (1 followed by 25 zeros). Nobody knows the actual number.

Let us now try to visualize the above-mentioned number of stars (i.e. 1025). No human being lives long enough to count such a large number, so we will use a computer, one of the fastest ones available. It can do 10,000 million calculations in one second, which is extremely fast! Even at this great speed it would require 30 million years of non-stop counting to count the stars, but no computer could last as long as that. Let us now try to visualize the above-mentioned number of stars (i.e. 1025). No human being lives long enough to count such a large number, so we will use a computer, one of the fastest ones available. It can do

10,000 million calculations in one second, which is extremely fast! Even at this great speed it would require 30 million years of non-stop counting to count the stars, but no computer could last as long as that.

God has foretold the result of such an endeavour through His prophet Jeremiah; the stars are, to all intents and purposes, countless, says the Bible, just like the sand grains on the seashore.” <https://answersingenesis.org/astronomy/stars/counting-the-stars/>

“Science writer David Blatner, in his new book Spectrums, says a group of researchers at the University of Hawaii, being well-versed in all things beachy, tried to calculate the number of grains of sand.

They said, if you assume a grain of sand has an average size and you calculate how many grains are in a teaspoon and then multiply by all the beaches and deserts in the world, the Earth has roughly (and we're speaking very roughly here)  $7.5 \times 10^{18}$  grains of sand, or seven quintillion, five hundred quadrillion grains.

That's a lot of grains.

Our stargazer gets a Hubble telescope and a calculator, so now we can count distant galaxies, faint stars, red dwarfs, everything we've ever recorded in the sky, and boom! Now the population of stars jumps enormously, to 70 thousand million, million, million stars in the observable universe (a 2003 estimate), so that we've got multiple stars for every grain of sand — which means, sorry, grains, you are nowhere near as numerous as the stars.”

<https://www.npr.org/sections/kruhwich/2012/09/17/161096233/which-is-greater-the-number-of-sand-grains-on-earth-or-stars-in-the-sky>

The point of these two guesstimates is that it is IMPOSSIBLE to number the stars in the universe as well as the sand in the sea. And, it is just as IMPOSSIBLE to prevent God's promise of the DAVIDIC COVENANT from occurring.

**23 Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,  
24 Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them.**

Once again, Jeremiah hears directly for the LORD. There are 3 points to consider:

1. **Considerest thou not what this people have spoken**

Don't even begin to think what these people have been saying is correct. Generally, it is commendable to hear biblical teaching and then consider it.

Acts 17:10-11

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

2. **saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off**

The people were saying that God is through with Israel (the two families are the northern and southern kingdoms).

Today, this view is known as Replacement Theology.

3. **thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them.**

The root cause of this view, Replacement Theology, is anti-Semitism.

**25 Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth;  
26 Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.**

For a third time, God reinforces His immutable promise to Israel and the Jewish people with the same illustration of the need to destroy God's covenant with night and day in order to destroy His covenant with Israel and the Jewish people.

In this passage the promise is that **“I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.”** This is the LAND COVENANT (Genesis 12:1) of the Abrahamic Covenant.