

# Jeremiah 11:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant,

## Analysis

This verse pronounces covenant curse: 'And say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant.' The Hebrew *arur* (רָאַרְעַ, cursed) is the covenant curse formula from Deuteronomy 27:28. 'Obeyeth not' (lo *yishma*, literally 'does not hear/obey') uses *shama* in its full sense of obedient response. 'Words of this covenant' directly echoes Deuteronomic language. The curse pronouncement makes clear that covenant violation carries consequences—not arbitrary punishment but agreed-upon terms activated by breach. Israel entered this covenant knowing the curses for disobedience.

## Historical Context

The curse formula 'arur' (cursed) appears twelve times in Deuteronomy 27:15-26, pronounced from Mount Ebal at covenant ratification. The curses of Deuteronomy 28:15-68 elaborate consequences for disobedience. This isn't new information—Jeremiah reminds Israel of what they already agreed to. The approaching Babylonian judgment represents these curses taking effect after centuries of violation.

## Related Passages

---

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. How does understanding covenant curses as agreed-upon consequences change our view of divine judgment?
2. What does pronouncing curses on disobedience reveal about the seriousness of covenant commitment?

## Interlinear Text

---

אָרָר וְרַבְּרָא לְאָלֹהָיִם אָמֵר כִּי אָמֵר הָיְהַ אֱלֹהָיִם יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אַנְשֵׁינוּ  
**And say** H413 **And say** H3541 **the LORD** H559 **God** H430 **of Israel** H3478 **Cursed** H779  
H559 H3068 H430 H3478 H779

בָּבָרְךָ יְהֹוָה שֶׁאָשֵׁר לְאָשֵׁר יְשַׁׁמֵּעַ אַתָּה אֶת דְּבָרָיו  
**be the man** H376 **that obeyeth** H834 **not the words** H3808 **of this covenant** H8085 H853 H1697 H1285  
H376 H834 H3808 H8085 H853 H1697 H1285

בְּזַאת:

H2063

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Deuteronomy 27:26** (Word): Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.