

# Jeremiah 16:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thus saith the LORD, Enter not into the house of mourning, neither go to lament nor bemoan them: for I have taken away my peace from this people, saith the LORD, even lovingkindness and mercies.

## Analysis

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Further prohibitions: 'For thus saith the LORD, Enter not into the house of mourning, neither go to lament nor bemoan them: for I have taken away my peace from this people, saith the LORD, even lovingkindness and mercies.' Jeremiah is forbidden to participate in mourning rituals. The reason: God has withdrawn 'peace,' 'lovingkindness,' and 'mercies.' These three terms (shalom, chesed, rachamim) represent covenant blessings now forfeited. When God removes these, normal social consolations become meaningless. Jeremiah's absence from mourning rituals symbolized God's absence—no divine comfort remained. This sign-act demonstrated the theological reality: judgment means covenant blessing withdrawal.

## Historical Context

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Mourning rituals were central to ancient Near Eastern social life. Jeremiah's absence from these gatherings would have been shocking and would have prompted questions about God's relationship to Judah.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does God's withdrawal of peace, lovingkindness, and mercy look like practically?
2. How do prophetic abstentions communicate truth about God's relationship to His people?
3. What role do covenant blessings play in making normal life meaningful and bearable?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	כִּי	כִּי	אָמַר	אָמַר	יְהִי	הָ	אֶל	אֶל	תָּבוֹא	תָּבוֹא	בַּ	יְהִי	בַּ	יְהִי
H3588	H3541		For thus saith		the LORD	H3068	H408		Enter		not into the house	H1004		
			H559		H3068		H935							
כִּי	לֹא	כִּי	מִרְצֵחַ	מִרְצֵחַ	תַּלְגֵּת	תַּלְגֵּת	וְאֶל	וְאֶל	לְסֹפְדָה	לְסֹפְדָה	כִּי	לֹא	כִּי	לֹא
of mourning	H408	H1980			to lament	H5594	H408		nor bemoan	H5110		H0	H3588	
H4798														
כִּי	בְּעֵמָה	כִּי	פְּתִי	אָסְפִּתִי	אָסְפִּתִי	מֵאַת	שְׁלֹום	וְאֶת	מֵאַת	בְּעֵמָה	כִּי	בְּעֵמָה	כִּי	בְּעֵמָה
them for I have taken away	H622		H853	my peace	H7965	H853			from this people	H5971		H2088		
כִּי	בְּרָכָה	כִּי	מִרְצֵחַ	מִרְצֵחַ	אֶת	יְהִי	הָ	אֶת	בְּרָכָה	בְּרָכָה	כִּי	בְּרָכָה	כִּי	בְּרָכָה
saith	the LORD	H853			even lovingkindness	H2617	H853		and mercies	H7356				
H5002	H3068													

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 27:11** (Parallel theme): When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off: the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding: therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favour.

**Deuteronomy 31:17** (Parallel theme): Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because our God is not among us?

**Revelation 6:4** (Peace): And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

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