

Jeremiah 17:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then shall there enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: and this city shall remain for ever.

Analysis

The promised blessing for Sabbath-keeping includes dynastic continuity and prosperity: "Then shall there enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David." This references God's covenant with David (2 Sam 7:12-16) promising an eternal dynasty. The imagery of kings and princes "riding in chariots and on horses" depicts royal splendor and military might—marks of national strength and security.

"This city shall remain for ever" offers permanent establishment of Jerusalem as the covenant capital. The Hebrew *le'olam* (לְעוֹלָם, forever) can mean indefinitely long or eternally, depending on context. Historically, Jerusalem did not remain forever due to Judah's disobedience—it fell to Babylon in 586 BC. Yet the promise points beyond temporal Jerusalem to the eternal city, the New Jerusalem (Rev 21:2), where Christ the ultimate Davidic King reigns eternally.

This conditional promise demonstrates that covenant blessings depend on covenant faithfulness. Judah's failure to meet the condition brought the opposite—exile, the end of the earthly Davidic monarchy, and Jerusalem's destruction. Yet God's ultimate purposes cannot fail. Christ, the Son of David, fulfills these

promises perfectly, establishing an eternal kingdom that cannot be shaken (Luke 1:32-33, Heb 12:28).

Historical Context

The Davidic dynasty ruled Judah from approximately 1010-586 BC. Despite ups and downs, the line continued until Nebuchadnezzar deported King Jehoiachin and appointed Zedekiah, who later rebelled, leading to Jerusalem's destruction. No Davidic king ruled Jerusalem again until Christ, whom the New Testament identifies as the promised Son of David who inaugurates God's eternal kingdom (Matt 1:1, 21:9, Rom 1:3).

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How do conditional Old Testament promises inform your understanding of covenant blessings and consequences?
2. In what ways does Christ's eternal kingship fulfill and transcend the conditional promises made to Judah?
3. What does it mean that believers are citizens of a city that truly will remain forever?

Interlinear Text

וְאַתָּה	בְּשַׁעַר	הַעִיר	זֶה	אֵת	מֶלֶךְ	יָמִן
Then shall there enter	into the gates	and this city			kings	
H935	H8179	H5892		H2063		H4428
וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	רַכְבָּם	יְמִינֵּי דָּוִיד
and princes	and the inhabitants	and the inhabitants	and the inhabitants	and the inhabitants	upon the throne	of David
H8269	H3427	H5921	H3678	H1732		H7392
בְּרַכְבָּם	וּבְרַכְבָּם	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי
in chariots	and on horses	and on horses	and on horses	and on horses	the men	of Judah
H7393	H5483	H1992	H8269	H376		H3063
וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	וְאַנְשֵׁי	זֶה	אֵת
and the inhabitants	of Jerusalem	and the inhabitants	and the inhabitants	and the inhabitants	the city	of Judah
H3427	H3389	H3427	H3427	H5892		H2063
לְעוֹלָם						
for ever						
H5769						

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 22:4 (Kingdom): For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.

Isaiah 9:7 (Kingdom): Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Hebrews 12:22 (References Jerusalem): But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

Jeremiah 33:15 (References David): In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

Jeremiah 33:21 (Kingdom): 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.

Jeremiah 33:17 (References David): For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

2 Samuel 7:16 (Kingdom): And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.