

Jeremiah 22:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD, Write ye this man childless, a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.

Analysis

Write ye this man childless (כתבו אֶת-בָּאֵשׁ הַזֶּה עָרִירִי, kitvu et-ha'ish hazeh ariri)—the Hebrew **ערירִי** (ariri, 'childless/stripped/bare') doesn't mean biological childlessness (he had seven sons, 1 Chronicles 3:17-18) but legal nullification of dynasty. **A man that shall not prosper in his days**—the verb **צָלַח** (tsaleach, 'prosper/succeed') is negated. Why? **For no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.** The Davidic covenant promise (2 Samuel 7:12-16) appears terminated.

The command to 'write' suggests official royal annals, public records declaring dynastic end. Yet Matthew 1:11-12 includes Jeconiah in Jesus's genealogy—through the legal line of Joseph, not the biological line. God's curse is both fulfilled (no descendant ruled as king) and circumvented (Jesus came through this line but not from Joseph's seed biologically). The virgin birth becomes theologically necessary to navigate this curse. God's judgments are real, yet His grace finds a way where none existed.

Historical Context

Jehoiachin's sons Shealtiel and Pedaiah (1 Chronicles 3:17-19) never ruled as kings. His grandson Zerubbabel served as governor but not monarch. The curse

effectively ended the Davidic monarchy until Jesus—a gap of ~600 years. Jewish genealogical records meticulously tracked this line despite the curse, preserving the lineage through which Messiah would come.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do you reconcile God's severe judgments with His ultimate redemptive purposes?
2. What 'curses' in your life might God be working around or through for His glory?
3. How does Jesus's inclusion of Jeconiah in His genealogy demonstrate grace triumphing over judgment?

Interlinear Text

עָרֵיךְ יְהִי בָּזָה אִישׁ כִּי הַנּוֹתָר אִם־רְאֵת
H3541 Thus saith the LORD Write for no man
H559 H3068 H3789 H853 H376 H2088 childless
H6185

מִצְרָעַ וְיַצְלָחַ בְּיָמָיו יַצְלֵחַ לֹא גַּבֵּר
a man H3808 shall prosper in his days H3588 H3808 H6743 H2233
H1397 H6743 H3117

עַד וּמְשִׁלְךָ לְזִדְעָנָה אִישׁ עַל יֹשֵׁב
for no man sitting upon the throne of David and ruling
H376 H3427 H5921 H3678 H1732 H4910 H5750

בִּיהוּדָה:
any more in Judah
H3063

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 36:30 (References Lord): Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

Psalms 94:20 (Parallel theme): Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?

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