

Jeremiah 23:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

Analysis

Jeremiah prophesies that a future deliverance will be so significant it will eclipse even the Exodus in Israel's national memory and worship. The Exodus was the foundational event of Israel's identity—it demonstrated God's power, established His covenant relationship with them, and became the paradigm for understanding salvation. Yet Jeremiah announces a coming deliverance that will supersede it as the defining moment of God's redemptive work.

This prophecy operates on multiple levels. Immediately, it referred to the return from Babylonian exile—Jews would be gathered from where they had been scattered and return to their land. Yet this return was disappointing; the second temple was inferior to Solomon's, most Jews remained in dispersion, and Israel remained under foreign domination (Persia, Greece, Rome). The prophecy therefore points beyond the historical return to the greater exodus accomplished by Christ.

The New Testament presents Jesus as the new Moses who leads a new exodus. His death and resurrection deliver God's people not from Egyptian slavery but from sin's slavery. His ascension and sending of the Spirit inaugurate the gathering of God's people from all nations. The ultimate fulfillment awaits the eschaton when Christ returns to gather His elect from the four winds (Matthew 24:31) and establish the new heavens and new earth where righteousness dwells.

Historical Context

The Exodus was commemorated annually in Passover and referenced constantly in Israel's worship and teaching. To suggest any event could surpass it was revolutionary. Yet the New Testament explicitly identifies Jesus as the Passover Lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7), His death as the new exodus (Luke 9:31, literally 'exodus' in Greek), and believers as those who have been delivered from a greater bondage than Egypt—the bondage to sin and death (Romans 6:17-18).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does understanding Christ's work as a greater exodus than the Exodus reshape our understanding of salvation?
2. What does it mean that the deliverance through Christ is so significant it eclipses even the Exodus in God's redemptive plan?
3. In what ways should we, like Israel, regularly commemorate and teach the next generation about God's great deliverance?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	יְהִי	הַ	לְכָ	לְכָ	יְמִ	יְמִ	בְּאַם	בְּאַם	לֹא	יְהִי	הַ	לְאַל	
H3651	H2009	Therefore	behold	the	days	H3117	come	saith	The	LORD	H3808		
							H935	H5002	H3068				
וְאִמְרָא	עִזָּה	פִּי	אָשָׁר	יְהִי	הַ	פָּעֵל							
that	they	shall	no	more	say	H5750	liveth	The	LORD	H834	which	brought	up
						H559	H2416	H3068		H5927			
אֶת	בְּנֵי	לֵדֹת	מִאָרֶץ	יִשְׁרָאֵל		מִצְרָיִם:							
H853	the	children	of	Israel	out	of	the	land	of	Egypt			
	H1121		H3478			H776			H4714				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 23:3 (Parallel theme): And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

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