

Jeremiah 30:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thus saith the LORD, Thy bruise is incurable, and thy wound is grievous.

Analysis

Thy bruise is incurable, and thy wound is grievous (אָנוֹשׁ שְׁבָרֶךָ נָחָלָה מַכְתָּה)—God diagnoses Israel's condition with medical imagery. Anush (incurable, desperate) and nachlah (grievous, sick) describe terminal illness. The sheber (fracture, breaking) and makkah (wound, blow) aren't mere injuries but mortal damage.

Yet this dire diagnosis introduces miraculous healing (v. 17): 'I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds.' The incurable becomes curable through divine intervention. This theological move appears throughout Scripture: dead bones live (Ezekiel 37), barren wombs conceive (Genesis 18), blind eyes see (John 9). God specializes in impossible cases, allowing conditions to reach 'incurable' precisely to showcase His sovereign grace. Israel's wound—sin's consequence—requires not human therapy but divine resurrection.

Historical Context

By 586 BC, Judah's political, social, and spiritual condition appeared terminal: temple destroyed, king blinded and exiled, Jerusalem ruined, population scattered. Medical imagery captured hopelessness—yet introduced supernatural healing.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What 'incurable' wounds in your life require not self-help but divine resurrection?
2. How does honest diagnosis of your desperate condition prepare you to receive God's miraculous healing?
3. Where have you seen God specialize in impossible cases, showcasing grace through terminal circumstances?

Interlinear Text

וְכֹה	אָמַר	יְהִי	אֵن	וְשָׁבֵר	לְשָׁבֵר	נַחַל
H3588	H3541	H559	H3068	H605	H7667	H2470
For thus saith	the LORD	is incurable	Thy bruise	is grievous		

מִכְתָּן:
and thy wound

H4347

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 15:18 (Parallel theme): Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail?

Jeremiah 30:15 (Parallel theme): Why criest thou for thine affliction? thy sorrow is incurable for the multitude of thine iniquity: because thy sins were increased, I have done these things unto thee.

Jeremiah 14:17 (Parallel theme): Therefore thou shalt say this word unto them; Let mine eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease: for the

virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great breach, with a very grievous blow.

2 Chronicles 36:16 (References Lord): But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy.

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