

# Jeremiah 31:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God.

## Analysis

**For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God.** This prophetic promise envisions a future reunification of Israel's divided kingdom. Watchmen (נִצְרִים, notzerim) were sentinels posted on elevated positions to announce pilgrims' arrival or warn of danger. Here they become heralds of restoration, calling from **mount Ephraim**—the heartland of the Northern Kingdom that fell to Assyria in 722 BC.

The cry **Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion** reverses centuries of schism. After Solomon's death (931 BC), Jeroboam erected golden calves at Dan and Bethel to prevent northerners from worshiping in Jerusalem (1 Kings 12:26-30). For nearly 400 years, Ephraim and Judah remained divided. Now Jeremiah prophesies northern tribes voluntarily seeking **Zion unto the LORD our God**—acknowledging both Jerusalem's centrality and Yahweh's exclusive claim.

This promise finds partial fulfillment in post-exilic returns when remnants of northern tribes joined Judah (Ezra 6:21, Luke 2:36 mentions Anna from Asher). Yet it ultimately points to the New Covenant (vv. 31-34) when Jew and Gentile unite in Christ, the true temple (John 2:19-21, Ephesians 2:14-16).

## Historical Context

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Jeremiah prophesied during Judah's final decades (627-586 BC), when the Northern Kingdom had already been extinct for over a century. Assyria had deported the northern tribes and resettled foreigners in their land (2 Kings 17). Yet God's covenant with Abraham encompassed all twelve tribes, and prophets consistently envisioned future restoration (Isaiah 11:11-13, Ezekiel 37:15-23). The phrase 'mount Ephraim' evokes the northern heartland, and the invitation to 'go up to Zion' signifies healing the breach between north and south, restoring unified worship at the legitimate sanctuary.

## Related Passages

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this prophecy demonstrate God's faithfulness to restore what human sin has fractured?
2. In what ways does the reunification of Ephraim and Judah foreshadow the unity of Jew and Gentile in the church?
3. What invitation to 'go up to Zion' (worship the true God in the true way) might God be extending to those separated from His people?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּבָרֶכֶת	נִצְרָיִם	קֹרְאֵת	וְיֹמָם	וְשָׁמָן	כִּי	וְשָׁמָן	בָּבָרֶכֶת
H3588 For there shall be	H3426 a day	H3117 shall cry	H7121 that the watchmen	H5341 upon the mount	H2022		
Ephraim	Arise	ye and let us go up	to Zion	unto the LORD	our God		
H669	H6965	H5927	H6726	H413	H3068	H430	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 50:19** (Parallel theme): And I will bring Israel again to his habitation, and he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan, and his soul shall be satisfied upon mount Ephraim and Gilead.

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