

Jeremiah 33:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

Analysis

David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne (לֹא־יִכָּרֵת לְדָוִד אִישׁ יָשֵׁב עַל־) —This is God's unconditional covenant promise to David (2 Samuel 7:12-16), reaffirmed in Judah's darkest hour. The Hebrew yikkaret (be cut off) emphasizes permanence: David's line will never fail.

The fulfillment is ultimately Christological—Jesus the Messiah sits on David's throne eternally (Luke 1:32-33, Acts 2:29-36). Though the political Davidic kingdom ended in 586 BC, the messianic kingdom never fails. This verse bridges the **already/not yet** tension: Christ reigns now spiritually, and will reign physically in the millennial kingdom. God's covenant with David is as certain as the fixed order of creation (v. 20-21).

Historical Context

Spoken during Jerusalem's siege (588-586 BC) when the Davidic monarchy faced imminent extinction. The timing underscores God's sovereignty—He reaffirms His covenant precisely when circumstances seem to contradict it. This echoes the Abrahamic covenant reaffirmed during famine and barrenness.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's eternal reign as David's greater Son demonstrate God's faithfulness to seemingly impossible promises?
2. What 'thrones' in your life seem to be failing, yet God has promised to sustain?
3. How does this unconditional covenant differ from conditional covenants that depend on human obedience?

Interlinear Text

פִּי	כֹה	אָמַר	יְהוָה	לֹא	יִכָּרֵת	לְדָוִד	אִישׁ
H3588	H3541	For thus saith	the LORD	shall never	want	David	a man
		H559	H3068	H3808	H3772	H1732	H376
יֹשֵׁב	עַל	כִּסֵּא	בֵּית	יִשְׂרָאֵל:			
to sit	H5921	upon the throne	of the house	of Israel			
H3427		H3678	H1004	H3478			

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 2:4 (References Lord): That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

Isaiah 9:7 (References Lord): 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.

1 Kings 8:25 (References Lord): Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail

thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me.

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