

# Jeremiah 8:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

## Analysis

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This verse contains Jeremiah's most famous indictment of false religious leaders: 'For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.' The verb 'healed' (rapha, רָפָא) is used sarcastically—they applied superficial bandages to mortal wounds. 'Slightly' (al-neqallah, אַל-נֶעְלָלָה) means superficially, trivially, treating serious illness as minor inconvenience. The repeated 'Peace, peace' (shalom, shalom) represents the false prophets' message: all is well, God is pleased, judgment won't come. But 'there is no peace' (ein shalom, אֵין שְׁלוֹמִים) exposes the lie. True prophets diagnosed the cancer of sin requiring radical surgery; false prophets prescribed painkillers while the patient died.

## Historical Context

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This verse repeats Jeremiah 6:14, emphasizing the persistent problem of false prophecy throughout his ministry. Prophets like Hananiah (Jeremiah 28) explicitly contradicted Jeremiah, promising quick return from exile. The 'shalom' message appealed to national pride and religious presumption—surely God wouldn't allow Jerusalem and the temple to fall. Yet 586 BC's destruction vindicated Jeremiah's diagnosis over the false prophets' prognosis.

## Related Passages

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

## Study Questions

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1. How do religious leaders today offer 'peace' messages that ignore sin's seriousness and judgment's reality?
2. What distinguishes genuine spiritual comfort from false assurance that enables continued sin?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּכַּף ו	אֶת	שֶׁ בָּרַךְ	בֵּת	עַמִּי	עַל	נִקְלָה ה
For they have healed	H853	the hurt	of the daughter	of my people	H5921	slightly
H7495		H7667	H1323	H5971		H7043
שָׁלוֹם: לֵאמֹר ר	שָׁלוֹם:	שָׁלוֹם:	וְאֵין	שָׁלוֹם:		
saying	Peace	Peace	H369	Peace		
H559	H7965	H7965		H7965		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 6:14** (Peace): They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

**Lamentations 2:14** (Parallel theme): Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.