

HOPE RESTORED

Jeremiah 30-31

What's the greatest comeback in sports history?

The Boston Globe

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017

PATRIOTS 34 FALCONS 28 IN OT

WIN FOR THE AGES



Comeback champs totally flipped the script

DAN SHAGHNESSY

HOUSTON — It will take weeks, months, maybe years to fully absorb this one, but given all the layers of drama, emotion, and improbability, the Patriots' 34-28 overtime victory over the Atlanta Falcons Friday night might very well be the greatest moment in Boston sports history.

And that, folks, is saying something.

Super Bowl 12 at massive NRG Stadium was supposed to be all about revenge and a Roger Goodell trophy moment, but it wound up being the greatest comeback in Super Bowl history and a victory against which all others — in every sport — will forever be measured.

"Thanks to all our fans," said Tom Brady, while he held the Lombardi Trophy. "You've been with us all year and we're going to bring this sucker home!"

The Patriots fell behind, 21-0, in the first half. They trailed, 28-3, with less than three minutes to play in the third quarter. Forget about revenge for Deflategate penalties, it looked as if the Patriots were going to be embarrassed. And then they scored 31 unanswered points in less than two full quarters.

We can officially retire all arguments about Greatest Of All Time. Brady is the greatest quarterback. And Bill Belichick is the greatest coach. They are the first pair to win five Super Bowls. And no one will ever forget how they got this latest one.

Playing in silent fury following his September suspension, but inspired by the presence of his ill mother, who hadn't seen him play all season, Brady threw for 400 yards and led a

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OH, SO CLOSE
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Special Super Bowl Edition ★ Monday, February 6, 2017 ★ \$2

PATRIOTS 34 FALCONS 28

HEARTBREAK

From joy to despair: Atlanta watches Super Bowl slip from its grasp.



TOUGH LOSS: Atlanta Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan leaves the field after the Falcons lost in overtime to the New England Patriots 34-28 in Super Bowl XLVIII. (AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

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The MOST AMAZING
SEASON IN HISTORY

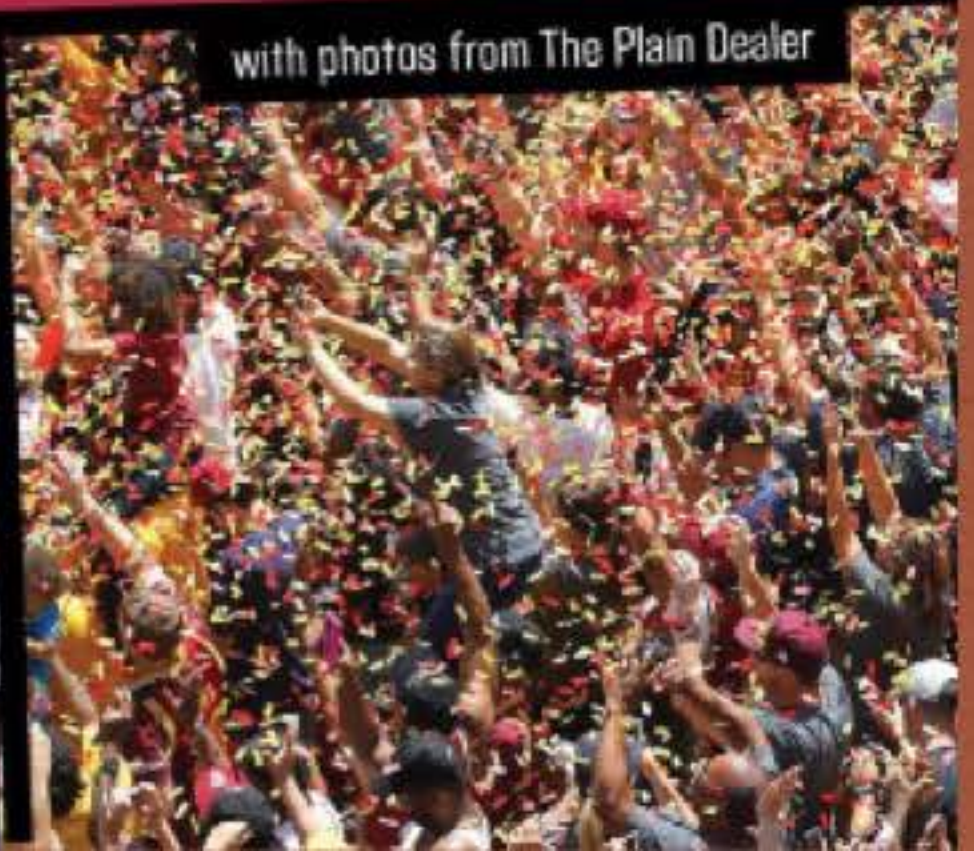
WORLD CHAMPIONS
2004

11/10/04 • DISPLAY UNTIL 1/10/05





THE COMEBACK: LEBRON, THE CAVS & CLEVELAND - TERRY PLUTO



with photos from The Plain Dealer

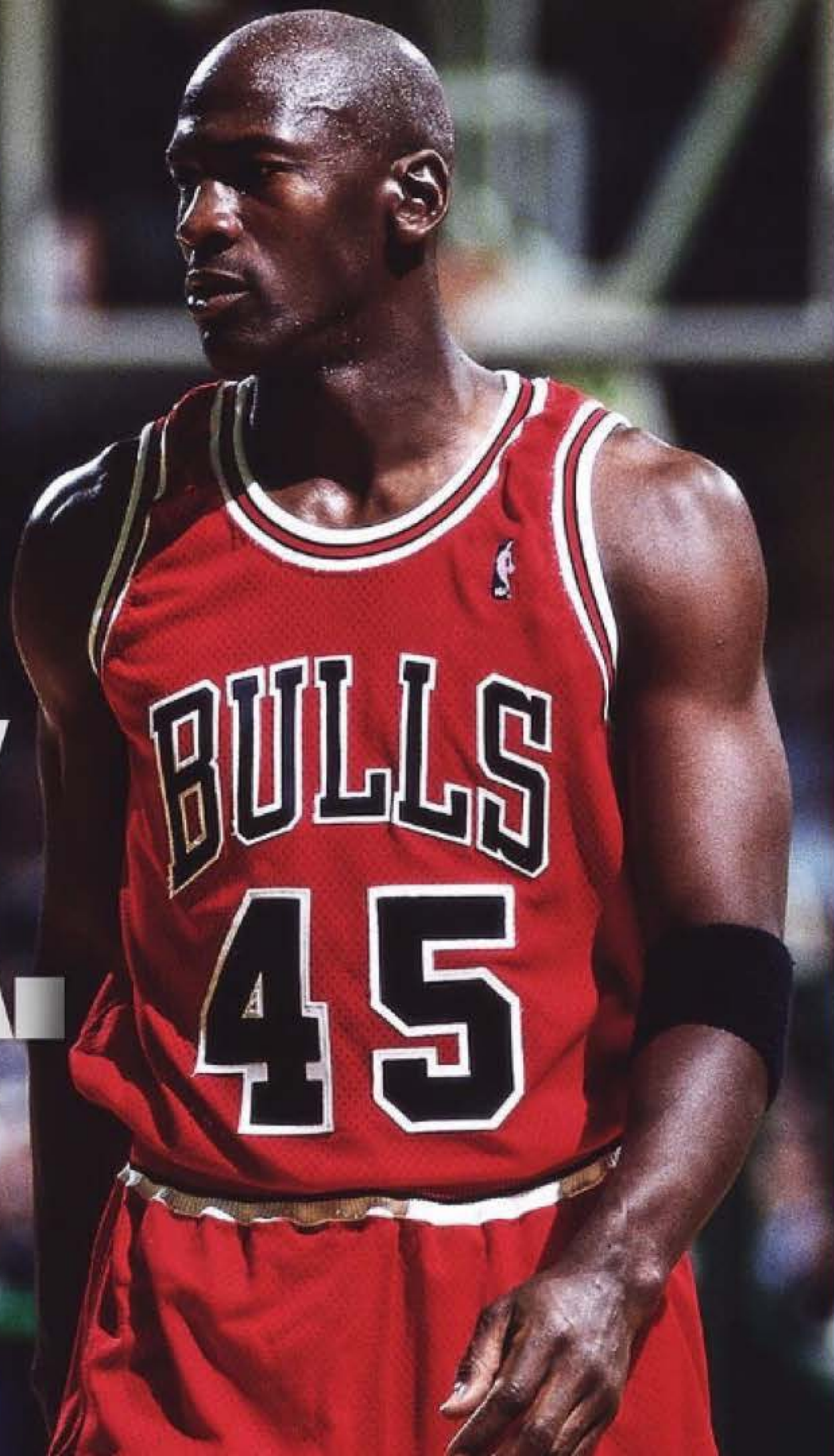


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I'M
BACK.

Michael Jordan's announcement
to return to the NBA in 1995

B/R





JEREMIAH 30:1-3 (ESV)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord:

² "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:

JEREMIAH 30:1-3 (ESV)

Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.
3 For behold, days are coming, declares the Lord,

JEREMIAH 30:1-3 (ESV)

when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah,
says the Lord,

JEREMIAH 30:1-3 (ESV)

and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers,
and they shall take possession of it."

1

The greatest comeback

JEREMIAH 30:3 (ESV)

For behold, days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says the Lord,

JEREMIAH 30:3 (ESV)

and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers,
and they shall take possession of it."

I will bring them back comes from
the Hebrew word shûwb: Turn back, Return

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

4 These are the words that the Lord spoke concerning Israel and Judah:

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

5 "Thus says the Lord: We have heard a cry of panic,
of terror, and no peace.

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

6 Ask now, and see, can a man bear a child? Why then do I see every man with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor?

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)
Why has every face turned pale?

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

7 Alas! That day is so great there is none like it;
it is a time of distress for Jacob; yet he shall be saved out of it.

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

8 "And it shall come to pass in that day, declares the Lord of hosts,
that I will break his yoke from off your neck,

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

and I will burst your bonds, and foreigners shall no more make a servant of him.

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

9 But they shall serve the Lord their God and David their king,
whom I will raise up for them.

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

¹⁰ "Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the Lord, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away,

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid.

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

¹¹ For I am with you to save you, declares the Lord; I will make a full end of all the nations among whom I scattered you,

JEREMIAH 30:4-11 (ESV)

but of you I will not make a full end. I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished.

DR. DAN WILSON

"We over-read God's judgment and we under-read God's hope."

JEREMIAH 30:12-14 (ESV)

¹² "For thus says the Lord: Your hurt is incurable,
and your wound is grievous.

JEREMIAH 30:12-14 (ESV)

¹³ There is none to uphold your cause,
no medicine for your wound, no healing for you.

JEREMIAH 30:12-14 (ESV)

¹⁴ All your lovers have forgotten you; they care nothing for you;
for I have dealt you the blow of an enemy,

JEREMIAH 30:12-14 (ESV)

the punishment of a merciless foe, because your guilt is great,
because your sins are flagrant.

JEREMIAH 30:17 (ESV)

For I will restore health to you,
and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord,

JEREMIAH 30:22 (ESV)

And you shall be my people,
and I will be your God."

JEREMIAH 30:24 (ESV)

The fierce anger of the Lord will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intentions of his mind.

JEREMIAH 30:24 (ESV)

In the latter days you will understand this.

Little Christian clasped his hands together as he felt the cold waters of the Dark River rushing round his body. Hopeful kept close to him and tried to hold him up, but the little pilgrim soon lost his footing and cried out, "I am sinking! The water is all going over me!"

"No, it is only rough," said Hopeful. "Do not be so frightened. I can feel the ground at the bottom of the river, and it is quite firm. We shall cross safely, and then we shall have no more trouble."

Excerpt from *Little Pilgrim's Progress* (from John Bunyan's Classic) by Helen L. Taylor
Chapter 48 - The End of the Pilgrimage

“Perhaps you will cross,” whispered Christian faintly, “but I am sure I cannot. I shall never see the King, and I did so wish to live with Him always!”

“You will live with Him. Look up, Christian, and don’t think about the water. We can see everything quite clearly now. The City is full of light, and the Shining Ones are waiting for us at the gates.”

Excerpt from *Little Pilgrim’s Progress* (from John Bunyan’s Classic) by Helen L. Taylor
Chapter 48 – The End of the Pilgrimage

"They are waiting for you," said Christian, "not for me." And then his head sank down on Hopeful's shoulders. For a little while he did not seem to hear anything that his companion said. But Hopeful held him tightly in his arms and prayed very earnestly to the King to help them both in this last trouble.

Excerpt from *Little Pilgrim's Progress* (from John Bunyan's Classic) by Helen L. Taylor
Chapter 48 - The End of the Pilgrimage

Presently little Christian opened his eyes, and as the light from the Celestial City fell upon his face, he cried out suddenly, "Oh, I can see it all now! It shines like the sun, and I heard the voice of the Prince. He said, 'I will be with you in the waters.'"

"Then I am sure we need not be frightened," said Hopeful. "Take hold of my hand again. The Prince will never break His promise."

Excerpt from *Little Pilgrim's Progress* (from John Bunyan's Classic) by Helen L. Taylor
Chapter 48 - The End of the Pilgrimage

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How does God want you to trust Him
in your next step of the journey you are on?

As you are being crushed by waves of despair
what moments of hope and rest is He giving you?

Are you guilty of over-reading judgement
and under-reading hope in the bible? How so?

JEREMIAH 31:1-4 (ESV)

"At that time, declares the Lord, I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they shall be my people."

JEREMIAH 31:1-4 (ESV)

² Thus says the Lord: "The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest,

JEREMIAH 31:1-4 (ESV)

³ the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

JEREMIAH 31:1-4 (ESV)

4 Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel!

JEREMIAH 31:1-4 (ESV)

Again you shall adorn yourself with tambourines
and shall go forth in the dance of the merry-makers.

JEREMIAH 31:3 (ESV)

I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

JEREMIAH 31:13-14 (ESV)

¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

JEREMIAH 31:13-14 (ESV)

I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

JEREMIAH 31:13-14 (ESV)

¹⁴ I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, declares the Lord."

JEREMIAH 31:17 (ESV)

There is hope for your future, declares the Lord,
and your children shall come back to their own country.

2

Hope is restored by the goodness of God.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How has the everlasting love of God and His goodness continued to bring you back to Him?

How has the goodness of God put a desire in your heart to fear Him?

Is it His judgment or love that make you fear God more?

JEREMIAH 31:18-20 (ESV)

¹⁸ I have heard Ephraim grieving, 'You have disciplined me,
and I was disciplined, like an untrained calf;

JEREMIAH 31:18-20 (ESV)

bring me back that I may be restored,
for you are the Lord my God.

JEREMIAH 31:18-20 (ESV)

¹⁹ For after I had turned away, I relented, and after I was instructed,
I struck my thigh; I was ashamed, and I was confounded,

JEREMIAH 31:18-20 (ESV)
because I bore the disgrace of my youth.'

JEREMIAH 31:18-20 (ESV)

²⁰ Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he my darling child?
For as often as I speak against him, I do remember him still.

JEREMIAH 31:18-20 (ESV)

Therefore my heart yearns for him;
I will surely have mercy on him, declares the Lord.

JEREMIAH 31:18 (ESV)

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for you are the Lord my God.

JEREMIAH 31:20 (ESV)

Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he my darling child?
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JEREMIAH 31:20 (ESV)

Therefore my heart yearns for him;
I will surely have mercy on him, declares the Lord.

GENESIS 12:1-3 (ESV)

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.

GENESIS 12:1-3 (ESV)

² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

GENESIS 12:1-3 (ESV)

³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt,

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,
declares the Lord.

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them,

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

and I will write it on their hearts.
And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me,

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 (ESV)

from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord.
For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

LUKE 22:20 (NIV)

This cup is the new covenant in my blood...

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT

"The New Testament is simply the latinized form of New Covenant."

3

The new covenant comes with a new hope.

Christopher Wright - Three Horizons:

- i. The actual return of exiles from Babylon
- ii. The promise of a new king and new covenant established by the blood of Jesus
- iii. The return of Christ and the new creation

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Where is God giving you a moment of hope today to keep going?