Stay True
Jeremiah 29:10-14
Sermon Outline

A. Surrender to God’s Word (vs. 10):

1. **Said** – What God is saying will never change.
2. **Lord** – Because of God’s relationship with Israel God in all His power and might has all that it takes to sustain His promises.
3. **Been completed**: **Full** – God’s time must come to its full completion before Israel’s relationship with God can be restored.
4. **Visit; Untouched** – God, when the time is right, will initiate His plan so that it endlessly transforms the difficult circumstances these individuals are experiencing for beneficial results.
   a) The specification of time was to curb the impatience of the Jews lest they should hasten before God’s time.\[1\]
   b) The desire to have things now causes us to listen to whoever promises us the NOW. Trials are to teach us endurance (James 1:2-4) and that is the word we don’t like to hear so the tendency is to dumb sound doctrine and run to those who tickle our ears (2 Timothy 4:1-5). Any pastor who holds to sound doctrine must be ready for their own endurance (2 Timothy 3:10-13).
5. **Visit; Untouched** – God’s visit is on His timing, His initiative, because of His covenant, continuously providing for His people, His blessings which transforming their difficult circumstances to beneficial results.
6. **Visit; Untouched** – When God is ready all of heaven based on all His authority and power is put in place to rescue His people, re-establish their relationship with Him and bless them.
7. **Fulfil**: **To establish** – God’s Word determines how God rises up to take care of His people. It is set in place and cannot be adjusted by no circumstance or person.
8. **Good** – God’s Word produces excellent results which has practical benefits for His people.
9. **Word to you** – God’s Word, which it commands, promises a prophetic revelation, is specifically directed to His people.
B. Trust God’s Plan for Your Life (vs. 10):

1. Know, teach – God has already experienced what He is planning to do for His people and He is confident that His plans are good.
   a) Here the plans, mentioned three times, are introduced with an emphatic “I know ...” (v. 11). [Inclusio.][^2]

2. Plans: Thoughts – God is actively thinking, creating new ideas leading to strategic processes He plans to implement for His people.
   a) The 70-year Exile was a part of God’s plans to give Judah hope and a future. The judgment prompted the exiles to seek God wholeheartedly (cf. Dan. 9:2–3, 15–19). Once they had turned back to their God He would gather them from all the nations where they had been banished and return them to their land. The larger purpose of the Exile was to force Israel back to her God (cf. Deut. 30:1–10).

3. I have for you – God’s relationship with His people is personal and direct.
4. Declares the Lord – Because all power and authority rest in the Lord, He can make all these declarations which He can and will fulfill.
5. Plans for welfare – The Lord is devising strategic processes that would create peaceful circumstances of well-being for His people. This would lead to complete satisfying conditions the Lord powerfully re-establishes for them.
   a) “The One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the Lord who does all these.” (Isaiah 45:7).

6. Calamity – The Lord’s plans do not include allowing evil to be able to alter any blessing He provides for His people.
7. Given you – The Lord’s plans are generously established and cannot be altered in anyway.
8. Future — No one or circumstances can alter God’s future plans.
9. Hope - The Lord’s people can eagerly expect with confident hope God’s plans, based on His decisive acts, to be fulfilled.

C. Trust God’s Faithfulness (vs. 12):

1. You will call – When the relationship with God is re-established His people can remain completely focused on shouting specific request to Him with the expectation that He will respond.
2. Come; Go up – Making worship a lifestyle should be a sincere commitment which stimulates a habitual movement towards His place of worship.
3. Pray – God wants us to be completely committed to be ready to call or supplicate before Him when we come into His presence.
4. **Listen; Heard** – When we come into His presence God provides us His full attention with a caring heart completely focused on gaining a full knowledge of our request.

5. **You will seek Me** - When we are in a set state of mind to pursue the Lord He will let us find Him.

   a) "But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. 30 "When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, in the latter days you will return to the Lord your God and listen to His voice." (Deuteronomy 4:29-30; NASU)

6. **Find me** – Finding the Lord takes place when we are purposeful in our search with a complete determination to not stop until we experience Him.

7. **Search; seek** - Searching for the Lord is endless because our circumstances and a commitment to find Him drives us to need His guidance and power.

8. **With all your heart** – Seeking the Lord should be our deepest emotion that controls our will. This process should provide wisdom and understanding.

9. **I will be found by you** – The Lord will allow us to experience His presence and His power when we purposely seek Him. Notice how the Lord states that He would be found by those who have a covenant with Him. The personal pronouns in this phrase are powerful.

10. **Declares the Lord** – Because all power and authority rest in the Lord He can make all these declarations which He can and will fulfill.

11. **Restore; turn away** – The Lord in His own power and might is completely committed to bring Israel to the powerful condition they were once in.

12. **Gather** – It does not matter how shattered or scattered the people are; the Lord is completely committed to re-establish them.

13. **Bring; turn away** – The Lord is the one who, as a result of His commitment to His people, will establish an active movement of the nation back to Israel. When the time is right no one has the ability or power to stop Him.

14. **Sent into exile** – The Lord is completely committed to make sure those who went into exile, will not return. The Lord is comprehensive in His restoration process.

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