

a Righteous Branch

Pg 1

"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture, declares the LORD. Therefore, thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who are shepherding My people, 'You have scattered My flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them. Behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, declares the LORD. And I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries wherever I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. And I will set up shepherds over them who shall shepherd them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking,' says the LORD. Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will raise unto David a **Righteous Branch** (Jesus); and a **King** (Jesus) shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is His Name by which He (Jesus) shall be called: The LORD Our Righteousness (Yahweh sidqenu)!" (Jeremiah 23:1-6)

"And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will rebuild them, as at the first. And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against Me; and I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned, and by which they have transgressed against Me. And it shall be to Me a name of joy, a praise and an honor before all the nations of the earth, who shall hear of all the good that I will do unto them (Israel); and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I acquire for it. Thus says the LORD; 'Again there shall be heard in this place, which you say is desolate without man and without beast, even in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, that are desolate, without man, and without inhabitant, and without beast, the voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who shall say, 'Praise the LORD of Hosts: for the LORD is good; for His mercy endures forever,' and who shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity (the people held in captivity) of the land, as at the first, says the LORD.' Thus says the LORD of Hosts, 'Again in this place, which is desolate without man and without beast, and in all the cities therein, there shall be a habitation for shepherds to cause their flocks to lie down. In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the valleys, and in the cities of the south, and in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, there shall the flocks pass again under the hands of him who counts them, says the LORD. Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days, and at that time, will I cause the **Branch of Righteousness** (Jesus) to grow up unto David; and He (Jesus) shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell in safety; and this is the name which she (the city Jerusalem) shall be called, The LORD our Righteousness!" (Jeremiah 33:7-16)

Righteous: from the Hebrew word ***tsaddiq***, which means: "righteous, or just"

Righteousness: from the Hebrew word ***sidqenu***, (***tsedaqah***), which means: "righteousness, in the sense of 'rightness' or uprightness, or living justly, and uprightly according to the commandments of God. " (***Yahweh sidqenu***" = the LORD our Righteousness!)

Branch: from the Hebrew word ***tsemach***, which means: "a sprout, a branch, a growth, a bud". (That is a New Branch!)

These verses, describing Jesus as being the '**Righteous' Branch**, and the **Branch of Righteousness**, speak concerning the very nature of who Jesus is: His integrity, His uprightness, His just life, His blamelessness, His sinlessness, His purity, His truthfulness, His holiness, and His perfect Love towards all people!

a Righteous Branch

Pg 2

The time-context for fulfillment of these prophetic verses, in Jeremiah, is after the return of Israel to their promised land, and during and after the events coinciding with the Second coming of Christ Jesus. And Jesus, the Son of David, who is called the **Righteous Branch** (the **Branch of Righteousness**) shall reign as King, and shall prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice, (righteousness) on the earth.' At this time (all) Israel will be saved!

The term '**Branch**' in the Bible is occasionally used as a symbol of kings descended from royal ancestors. The verses quoted above are Messianic prophecies that speak concerning the genealogical descent of the promised Messiah (the Christ), from King David. Consider also this prophecy:

"And there shall come forth **a Shoot** out of the stem of Jesse (the father of King David), **and a Branch** shall grow out of his roots. And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him (Jesus), the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD." (Isaiah 11:1-2)

These attributes: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD, are all attributes that will 'rest' upon Jesus as He reigns as King in Jerusalem over all the earth. But all these attributes will be founded upon the greater attribute of the Righteousness of Christ Jesus! Isaiah continues with this prophetic word concerning Jesus:

"And His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD; and he shall not judge by what His eyes see, nor reprove by what His ears hear. **But with Righteousness** shall He judge the poor, and decide with equity (fairness) for the meek of the earth. And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. And **Righteousness** shall be the belt of His loins, and **Faithfulness** the belt of His waist." (Isaiah 11:3-5)

Jesus, the **Righteous Branch**, is also a Righteous Judge: "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He who sat upon it was called Faithful and True, and in Righteousness He judges and make war. (Revelation 19:11)

When Jesus, the **Righteous Branch**, reigns as King of kings, and when we are reigning with Him, there will be the voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, and the voice of the bridegroom (Jesus), and the voice of the bride (the church), and the voice of those who shall say, "Praise be the LORD of Hosts; for the LORD is good, and His mercy endures forever and ever"!!

JESUS is... the Righteous Branch

Raised up by the Father to reign forever upon the throne of King David!
And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him!
And Jesus shall execute judgment and righteousness in all the land!
In His days all Judah (Israel) will be saved!

Lord Jesus You are "Yahweh Our Righteousness"
You are our King Eternal – Forever Righteous and Faithful...
... forever our source of Joy and Gladness!
Amen, Amen!!