



Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



Don't Be A People-Pleaser!

Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ. (Gal 1:10, NIV)



Context:
A Letter To The Exiles

This is the **text of the letter** that the **prophet Jeremiah** sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the **exiles** and to the priests, the prophets and **all the other people** **Nebuchadnezzar** had carried into **exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.**

(Jer 29:1, NIV)



Context:
A Letter To The Exiles

This is what the LORD [YHWH]
Almighty, the God of Israel, says
to all those **I carried into exile**
from Jerusalem to Babylon:
(Jer 29:4, NIV)



Context: A Letter To The Exiles

2 So Jeremiah the prophet said to all the people of Judah and to all those living in Jerusalem: 3 For twenty-three years—from the thirteenth year of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah until this very day—the word of the LORD [YHWH] has come to me and I have spoken to you again and again, but you have not listened. (Jer 25:2-3, NIV)



Context: A Letter To The Exiles

4 And though the LORD [YHWH] has sent all his servants the prophets to you **again and again, you have not listened or paid any attention.** 5 They said, “**Turn now, each of you, from your evil ways and your evil practices, and you can stay in the land the LORD [YHWH] gave to you and your ancestors for ever and ever.** 6 Do not follow other gods to serve and worship them; do not arouse my anger with what your hands have made. **Then I will not harm [רָעַעְ (rā ‘a ‘)] you.”** (Jer 25:4-6, NIV)



Context:
A Letter To The Exiles

“But you did not listen to me,”
declares the LORD [YHWH], **“and you**
have aroused my anger with what your
hands have made, and you have
brought **harm to yourselves.”**
(Jer 25:7, NIV)



Context: A Letter To The Exiles

8 Therefore the LORD [YHWH] Almighty says this: “Because **you have not listened** to my words, 9 I will summon all the peoples of the north and **my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon,**” declares the LORD [YHWH], “and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin. 10 I will **banish** from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp.

(Jer 25:8-10, NIV)



Context:
A Letter To The Exiles

Also, seek the **peace and prosperity** [שְׁלוֹם
(*shalom*)] of the city to which I have carried
you into exile. Pray to the LORD [YHWH]
for it, because if it **prosper** [שְׁלוֹם
(*shalom*)], you too will **prosper** [שְׁלוֹם
(*shalom*)].” (Jer 29:7, NIV)



Context:
A Letter To The Exiles

But seek the **welfare** [שְׁלוֹם (*shalom*)]
of the city where I have sent you into
exile, and pray to the LORD [YHWH]
on its behalf, for in its **welfare** [שְׁלוֹם
(*shalom*)] you will find your **welfare**
[שְׁלוֹם (*shalom*)]. (Jer 29:7, ESV)



Context: A Letter To The Exiles

8 Yes, this is what the LORD [YHWH] Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “**Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. 9 They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,**” declares the LORD [YHWH]. (Jer 29:8-9, NIV)



Context: False Prophets, False Hope

They dress the **wound** of my people
as **though it were not serious**.

‘**Peace** [שָׁלוֹם (*shalom*)], **peace** [שָׁלוֹם (*shalom*)],’ they say,
when **there is no peace** [שָׁלוֹם (*shalom*)].

(Jer 6:14, NIV; cf. Jer 4:10, 8:11)



Context: False Prophets, False Hope

16 This is what the LORD [YHWH] Almighty says:

**“Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you;
they fill you with false hopes.**

**They speak visions from their own minds,
not from the mouth of the LORD [YHWH].**

17 They keep saying to those who despise me,

‘The LORD [YHWH] says: You will have peace [שְׁלוֹם (*shalom*)].’

**And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts
they say, ‘No harm [רָעָה (*rā ‘â*)] will come to you.’**

(Jer 23:16-17, NIV; cf. Jer 14:14, 27:9)



Context: False Prophets, False Hope

1 In the fifth month of that same year, the fourth year, early in the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, the prophet **Hananiah** son of Azzur, who was from Gibeon, said to me in the house of the LORD [YHWH] in the presence of the priests and all the people: 2 “This is **what the LORD [YHWH] Almighty, the God of Israel, says**: ‘I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon. 3 **Within two years** I will bring back to this place all the articles of the LORD [YHWH]’s house that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon removed from here and took to Babylon. 4 I will also bring back to this place Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim king of Judah and all the other exiles from Judah who went to Babylon,’ **declares the LORD [YHWH]**, ‘for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.’ ” (Jer 28:1-4, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:10 Settle Down!



For thus is what the LORD [YHWH] says:
"When seventy years are fulfilled for
Babylon, I will attend to [lit. visit] you (all)
and carry out for you (all) My good promise
[lit. word] to bring you (all) back to this
place. (Jer 29:10, AT)



Jeremiah 29:10

Settle Down! For Seventy Years!

This whole country will
become a **desolate wasteland**,
and these nations will **serve the**
king of Babylon seventy years.

(Jer 25:11, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:10

Settle Down! For Seventy Years!

12 “But **when the seventy years are fulfilled**, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians, for their guilt,” declares the LORD [YHWH], “and will **make it desolate forever**. 13 I will bring on that land all the things I have spoken against it, all that are written in this book and prophesied by Jeremiah against all the nations. 14 They themselves will be enslaved by many nations and great kings; I will repay them according to their deeds and the work of their hands.” (Jer 25:12-14, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:11

Trust The Master's Master Plan!

For *I* know the plans that *I* plan for you (all),” declares the LORD [YHWH], “plans of **welfare** [שְׁלוֹם] (*shalom*) and not to **harm** [רָעָה] (*rā ‘â*), to give you (all) a future and hope. (Jer 29:11, AT)



Jeremiah 29:11

Trust The Master's Master Plan!

“Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, ‘This is what the LORD [YHWH] says: Look! I am preparing a **disaster** [רָעָה (*rā`â*)] for you and **devising a plan** against you. So **turn from your evil ways**, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.’ (Jer 18:11, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:11

Trust The Master's Master Plan!

But they will reply, 'It's no use. **We will continue with our own plans; we will all follow the stubbornness of our evil hearts.**' ” (Jer 18:12, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:12
Restored Communication

And you (all) will call on Me
and come and pray to Me,
and I will listen to you (all).
(Jer 29:12, AT)



Jeremiah 29:12

Restored Communication

“Do not pray for this people or offer any plea or petition for them, because I will not listen when they call to me in the time of their distress.

(Jer 11:14, NIV)

Then the LORD [YHWH] said to me, **“Do not pray for the well-being of this people. (Jer 14:11, NIV)**



Jeremiah 29:13
Hunt For The Holy One
Wholeheartedly



You (all) will seek Me and you
(all) will find Me, when you
(all) carefully seek Me with all
your heart. (Jer 29:13, AT)



Jeremiah 29:13
Hunt For The Holy One
Wholeheartedly



25 After you have had children and grandchildren and have lived in the land a long time—if you then become corrupt and make any kind of idol, doing evil in the eyes of the LORD [YHWH] your God and arousing his anger, 26 I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you this day that you will quickly perish from the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess. You will not live there long but will certainly be destroyed.

(Dt 4:25-26, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:13
Hunt For The Holy One
Wholeheartedly



27 The LORD [YHWH] will **scatter** you among the peoples, and **only a few of you will survive among the nations to which the LORD [YHWH] will drive you.** 28 There you will worship man-made gods of wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or eat or smell.

(Dt 4:27-28, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:13
Hunt For The Holy One
Wholeheartedly



But if from there you **seek the LORD [YHWH]** your God, you will find him if you seek him with **all your heart** and with all your soul. (Dt 4:29, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:13
Hunt For The Holy One
Wholeheartedly



30 When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days **you will return to the LORD [YHWH] your God and obey him.** 31 For the LORD [YHWH] your God is a merciful God; he will **not** abandon or destroy you or **forget the covenant** with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath. (Dt 4:30-31, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:13

Hunt For The Holy One Wholeheartedly



1 When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come on you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD [YHWH] your God **disperses you among the nations**, 2 and when you and your children **return to the LORD [YHWH] your God and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul** according to everything I command you today, 3 then the LORD [YHWH] your God will **restore your fortunes** and have compassion on you and **gather you again** from all the nations where he scattered you. (Dt 30:1-3, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:14

Seek and Find,
Repent and Be Restored



And I will be found by you (all),” declares the LORD [YHWH]. “And I will restore your fortunes and will gather you (all) from all the nations and from all the places where I banished you (all),” declares the LORD [YHWH]. “And I will bring you (all) back to the place from where I sent you into exile.” (Jer 29:14, AT)



Jeremiah 29:14

Seek and Find,
Repent and Be Restored



9 “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; **seek and you will find**; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; **the one who seeks finds**; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

(Lk 11:9-10, NIV; cf. Mt 7:7-8)



Jeremiah 29:14

Seek and Find,
Repent and Be Restored



11 “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven **give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!**” (Lk 11:11-13, NIV)



Jeremiah 29:14

Seek and Find,
Repent and Be Restored



As it is written: “How
**beautiful are the feet of those
who bring good news!**”
(Rom 10:15b, NIV; cf. Is 52:7)



Jeremiah 29:14

Seek and Find,
Repent and Be Restored



46 He told them, “This is what is written:
The Messiah [i.e., the Christ] will suffer and
rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and
repentance for the forgiveness of sins will
be preached in his name to all nations,
beginning at Jerusalem. (Lk 24:46-47, NIV)