

The Righteous Branch of David

Jeremiah 23:5–6 | Participant worksheet | 30–45 minutes

Name _____ Date _____

Jeremiah condemns leaders who scatter God’s flock. God promises to gather his people and raise up a righteous king from David’s line, bringing wise rule, justice, and salvation.

Read and explore

Read Jeremiah 23:1–8. Then focus on Jeremiah 23:5–6.

“Behold, the days come,” says the LORD, “that I will raise to David a righteous Branch; and he will reign as king and deal wisely, and will execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely. This is his name by which he will be called: The LORD our righteousness.”

Jeremiah 23:5–6 • World English Bible (public domain)

Word help: Branch is a picture of new growth associated here with David’s royal line. The shepherds in verses 1–4 are leaders responsible for God’s people.

1. What have the shepherds done wrong in verses 1–2? What consequences have their actions had for the flock?

2. What does God promise to do for his people in verses 3–4?

3. Who raises up the righteous Branch? What is his connection with David, and how will he govern?

4. What is promised for Judah and Israel? What name is given to the king?

Connect and reflect

Read each New Testament passage in your Bible before answering. Notice whether it explicitly quotes the prophecy or develops a related theme.

5. Read Luke 1:30–33. How does Gabriel’s announcement connect Jesus with the promised Davidic king?

6. Read John 10:11–18. How does Jesus’ care for his sheep contrast with the failed shepherds in Jeremiah?

7. Read 1 Corinthians 1:30–31. What does Paul say Christ has become for believers, and where should their confidence rest?

Study note: Christians connect Jeremiah’s Davidic king with Jesus through passages about his ancestry, kingship, shepherding, and righteousness. The assigned New Testament readings do not explicitly quote Jeremiah 23:5–6.

8. How do these readings help Christians understand the righteous Branch and the name The LORD our righteousness?

9. Where could you practice more just or caring leadership? How does reliance on Christ shape that response?

10. My main takeaway and an optional prayer

Explore further: Jeremiah 33:14–16; Romans 3:21–26. What do these passages add about God’s righteousness and saving work?

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