

WALL NATIVITY SCENE JERUSALEM



Rembrandt: Jeremiah lamenting the destruction of Jerusalem
1630. Oil on panel. Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

By the rivers of Babylon

1 By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. 2 There on the poplars we hung our harps, 3 for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" 4 How can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a foreign land? 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill. 6 May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, if I do not consider Jerusalem my highest joy.

Psalm 137, 1 -6

Pilgrim joys and pilgrim wishes

A song of ascents. Of David. **1** I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." **2** Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem. **3** Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together. **4** That is where the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel. **5** There the thrones for judgment stand, the thrones of the house of David. **6** Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure."

Psalm 122, 1 - 6

The King of Peace in Zion

9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. **10** I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Zechariah 9, 9 - 10

Comforting Promises

9 "Then will I purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder. **10** From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers, my scattered people, will bring me offerings. **11** On that day you will not be put to shame for all the wrongs you have done to me, because I will remove from this city those who rejoice in their pride. Never again will you be haughty on my holy hill. **12** But I will leave within you the meek and humble, who trust in the name of the LORD. **13** The remnant of Israel will do no wrong; they will speak no lies, nor will deceit be found in their mouths. They will eat and lie down and no one will make them afraid." **14** Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem! **15** The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. **16** On that day they will say to Jerusalem, "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. **17** The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing." **18** "The sorrows for the appointed feasts I will remove from you; they are a burden and a reproach to you. **19** At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you; I will rescue the lame and gather those who have been scattered. I will give them praise and honor in every land where they were put to shame. **20** At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes," says the LORD.

Zephania 3, 9 - 20

The New Jerusalem

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." 5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

Revelation 21,1-5a

