



CLAYTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

SUNDAY BULLETIN

September 13, 2026

GET CONNECTED

CONTACT US

314-922-3737
matthewselay@gmail.com

OUR LOCATION

2501 Rockford Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63144

ONLINE

ClaytonCommunityChurch.com
FB: ClaytonCommunityChurch

Mission Statement

Know Jesus Christ and
Make Him Known as we
Grow and Serve Together.

ORDER OF SERVICE

- Call to Worship – Pastor Paul
- By the Rivers of Babylon & Awake Oh Israel
- Corporate Confession - Pastor Paul
- Kaddish
- Scripture Readings Psalm 137 & Matthew 18:15–20 Brenda
- Arise, Shine
- Message - Pastor Mathew
- Holy Communion - Pastor Ed
- Crown Him with Many Crowns
- Closing Prayer & Benediction - Pastor Ed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 19 8am-12pm Church Work Day
Painting exterior of sanctuary lower section, parking lot
repair and lighter tasks.

September 20 Pizza/Salad, Help the church improve guests
1st impressions video training and discussion

WAYS TO GIVE

Online

claytoncommunitychurch.com/give

In Person

Cash or check via giving envelopes.
The Giving Box is to the right of the
worship center as you exit.

Mail

Mail checks to:
Clayton Community Church
2501 Rockford Ave, St. Louis, MO 63144



UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Tuesday 6 pm: Prayer meeting via Zoom

Every Tuesday 7 pm: Bible Study via Zoom

September 18 6:30 pm: Small Group Bible Study – Selay's

September 19 8am-12pm Church Work Day

September 20 Pizza/Salad, Help the church improve guests
1st impressions video training and discussion

September 24 6:30 pm: Small Group Bible Study – Nagles'

CLAYTON KIDS CHURCH

Nursery and Kids Church is available babies to
10 years old. Kids are dismissed right before the sermon.

SERMON NOTES

Covenant and Captivity

2 Kings 17:1-19

See Handout

The Covenant and Captivity

Unfinished Hope — Ezra-Nehemiah | September 13, 2026

BIG IDEA: God is faithful to His covenant purposes even when His people are unfaithful. Israel's slow drift into idolatry brought discipline and exile, but God preserved a remnant and promised restoration.

INTRODUCTION — THE DANGER OF SLOW DRIFT

- People rarely choose destruction all at once. Small compromises become normal until we wonder, "How did I get here?"
- Israel's exile was not sudden; it was the end of a long spiritual trajectory.

Scripture: 2 Kings 17:7–23

I. GOD'S COVENANTS — HIS PROMISES UNFOLD THROUGH HISTORY

- Adamic — the promised offspring will crush the serpent. (Gen. 3:15)
- Noahic — God promises preservation after the flood. (Gen. 9:8–17)
- Abrahamic — a people, a land, and blessing to all nations. (Gen. 12:1–3; 15; 17)
- Mosaic — Israel becomes God's treasured possession, kingdom of priests, and holy nation; blessing is tied to obedience. (Ex. 19:4–6)
- Davidic — God promises an enduring house, kingdom, and throne. (2 Sam. 7:12–16)



II. THE COVENANT PATTERN — BLESSING, DISCIPLINE, EXILE, RESTORATION

- Obedience → blessing → life in the land.
- Persistent disobedience → discipline → defeat → exile.
- Repentance → restoration → return to the land.

Scripture: Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28; Deuteronomy 30

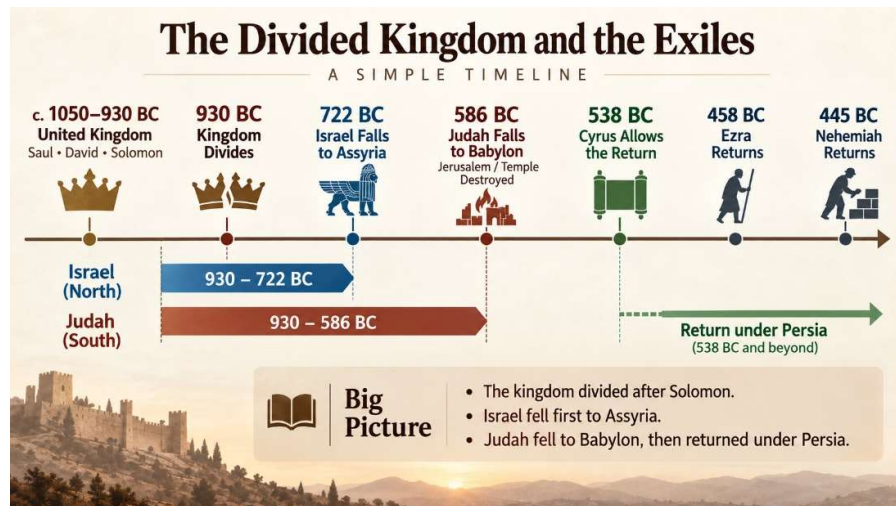
III. SEEKING GOD OR FORSAKING GOD

- Seeking God meant wholehearted faith, obedience, rejecting idolatry, and honoring true worship.
- Forsaking God meant idolatry, despising the prophets, violence, and refusal to repent.
- Idolatry is putting something in God's place — giving it the trust, love, or devotion that belongs to God alone.

IV. THE DIVIDED KINGDOM AND THE ROAD TO EXILE

- After Solomon, the kingdom divided: Israel in the north and Judah in the south.
- 722 BC — Israel fell to Assyria. 586 BC — Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by Babylon.

Scripture: 2 Kings 17:18–23; 2 Chronicles 36:15–21



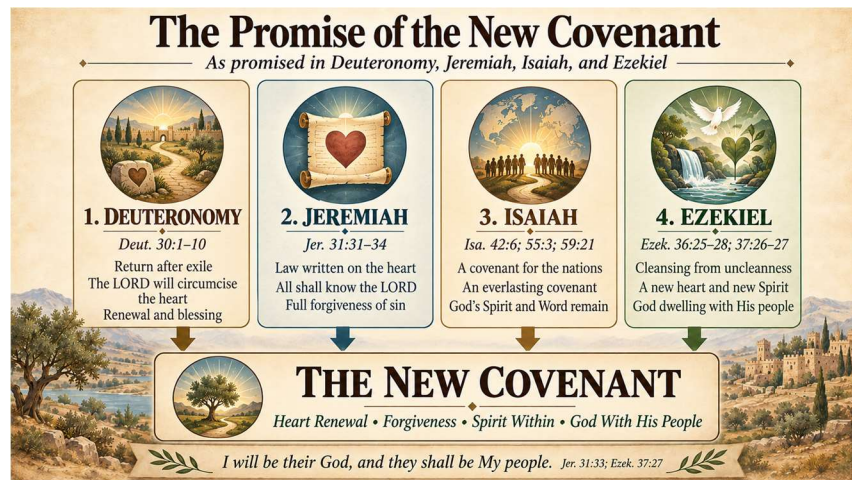
V. WHY DID EXILE HAPPEN? — 2 KINGS 17

- Israel forgot the God who rescued them. Their rebellion rejected the God who had redeemed them.
- They became like the nations around them, adopting pagan worship, idols, Asherah poles, divination, omens, and even child sacrifice.
- God warned them for generations through prophets and seers. Exile was the culmination of repeatedly rejected mercy.
- “They worshiped worthless idols, so they became worthless themselves.” What we worship shapes what we become. (2 Kings 17:15, NLT)

VI. GOD’S WORD TO HIS PEOPLE IN EXILE — JEREMIAH 29

- Live faithfully where God has placed you: build, plant, marry, have children, and multiply.
- Seek the welfare of the city and pray for it — neither withdraw from the city nor become like it.
- Jeremiah 29:11 means suffering would not cancel God’s purposes for His people.
- The deepest promise was restored relationship: “You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” Scripture: *Jeremiah 29:4–14*

VII. HOPE BEYOND EXILE — THE NEW COVENANT



IMPLICATIONS FOR US

- Choices have consequences. Secret, unrepentant sin is dangerous; God calls us to walk in the light.
- God’s grace is greater than our rebellion. He can restore what sin has broken.
- Our ultimate hope is Jesus Christ, who brings the promised new covenant and is restoring all things.

God’s purpose does not fail. Even in exile, there is hope.