

"THUS SAYS THE LORD"
417 TIMES IN THE ESV.

"THUS SAYS THE LORD ..."

"Thus says the LORD" ... is found 417 times in the ESV. Our text this morning speaks of "the words of the prophecy of this book" and that is what it is speaking of.

- (Isaiah 45:18–19 ESV) *For thus says the LORD*, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!): "I am the LORD, and there is no other. I did not speak in secret, in a land of darkness; I did not say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek me in vain.' I the LORD speak the truth; I declare what is right.

The Lord God speaks to us; he forthtells. To forthtell means to make public; to publish; to tell forth; publish abroad. Sometimes his forthtelling is foretelling. To us it is like predicting a future event but to God it is speaking what is and what will be because he is the Lord God the Almighty, and he has declared it. He does not merely predict it but makes it happen and assures that it will happen. God says it and it happens, whether at that moment or 6,000 years later. It is as if it is already accomplished because God has spoken the words.

- (Jeremiah 6:16–19 ESV) *Thus says the LORD*: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where

the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.' I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Pay attention to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not pay attention.' Therefore hear, O nations, and know, O congregation, what will happen to them. Hear, O earth; behold, I am bringing disaster upon this people, the fruit of their devices, because they have not paid attention to my words; and as for my law, they have rejected it."

- (Jeremiah 29:10–14 ESV) *For thus says the LORD*: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile."

The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.
(Psalm 33:11 ESV)



THE RIVER OF THE WATER OF LIFE ...

- (Isaiah 12:3 ESV) With joy you will draw *water from the wells of salvation*.
- (Revelation 7:17 ESV) For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to *springs of living water*, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
- (Revelation 21:6 ESV) And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from *the spring of the water of life* without payment."
- (Revelation 22:1 ESV) Then the angel showed me *the river of the water of life*, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.
- (Revelation 22:17 ESV) The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take *the water of life* without price.
- (Jeremiah 2:12–13 ESV) Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: *they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters*, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

