

THE GOD OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

Key Thought: God of Impossible

Key Verse: Jeremiah 32:16-27; 33:3

The book of Jeremiah was written against the backdrop of supreme evil. The people of God have walked away from God, and they have embraced the gods of the pagan nations around them. Their character can be seen in the passage of Jeremiah 32:28-35. Because of their sin, God is bringing His judgment upon the people. It was a time of pain, sorrow, death, and judgment. It was into this atmosphere that Jeremiah was sent to preach the Word of the Lord. Jeremiah was sent to a people who would not hear his message. He was sent to a people who would turn a deaf ear to all his pleas for repentance. He was sent to a people who were so given over to their sins that they had no desire to hear anything God or God's man had to say. Jeremiah preached in this climate for 50 years and there is no record that he had even a single convert.

It was a tragic time for the nation of Israel. Jeremiah was sent to them to preach a message of judgment. He was sent to the people to let them know that they had angered God and they were about to be judged. Jeremiah was commanded to tell them that their nation would be invaded. He was sent to tell them that they would be taken away captive. He was sent to deliver a message of final judgment to their king. As a result, Jeremiah was not the most popular man in his nation. In fact, he was arrested and thrown into prison by King Zedekiah for preaching the truth, **Jeremiah 32:1-5**. (*By the way, those days are not far away in Canada*)

Thus, Jeremiah wrote the passage we have read today while he was sitting in prison. Out of that tragic and difficult time comes a ray of hope for all those who know the Lord. While Jeremiah languished in that prison, the Lord came to him with a word of hope, blessing, and promise. The words of Jeremiah offer the same comfort to our hearts today.

As everyone here knows, we are living in tough times. Times are rough spiritually. Times are tough with the economy. Times are tough for the church. Times are tough for the family. Times are tough on individuals. Times are tough right now. I want you to know that the same God who spoke peace to Jeremiah in that prison cell is the same God who knows where you are today. He was *The God of The Impossible* then, and He is still *The God of The Impossible* now.

Let me show you the *lessons* we can learn here that teach us about *The God of The Impossible*.

I. JEREMIAH'S CONFIDENCE (Jeremiah 32:17-22)

In this great prayer of hope, Jeremiah presents the evidence he has collected about God that shows Him to be The God of The Impossible. Jeremiah found hope in a desperate time by considering the nature of His God. Since God does not change, **Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8**, we can rest in the same hope today. Notice the foundation of Jeremiah's confidence in the Lord.

A. **God's Creation** (Jeremiah 32:17)

When Jeremiah considers the work of God hands, he understands that he is serving a God with Whom nothing shall be impossible. The heavens above us and the world around us declare the power and Person of God. His creation declares Him to be The God of The Impossible.

B. **God's Power** (Genesis 1:1) Genesis is perhaps the greatest commentary on God's power. **Psalm 19:1-4; Psalm 8:1-3; Isaiah 40:12; Romans 1:20** also declare the greatness of God in His creation. Regardless of lies in your path today remember that, if you are His, you belong to the God Who made it all. If He can make everything out of nothing, then He can be trusted to take care of you

C. **God's Character** (Jeremiah 32: 18-20) The language Jeremiah uses to describe God in the verses serves to remind us of Who He is. He is the God of grace, love, mercy, and provision. He is the God of miracles and power. He is the God who moves heaven and earth, and suspends the very laws of nature, if necessary to meet the needs of His children. He does this all through the books of the Bible and He has not changed! Same God now that He was then. He still knows what it takes and possesses what it takes to see you through whatever you may face in this life. Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:19; Matthew 6:33

D. **God's Conversion** (Jeremiah 32:21-22) Jeremiah also finds confidence from the Lord's power as it was displayed in Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt. He recounts how the Lord moved to deliver them from Egypt. He remembers how God brought them into the land of Canaan. He

writes of how the Lord demonstrated His power to save His people. That thought gives him confidence. It should do the same for us. When I think of God making the world, and everything that is a part of it, I'm amazed. When I think of Him creating light with a word, I am in awe. When I think of the vastness of the universe and how He created the stars, moons, and planets just by speaking them into existence, I am speechless. But, when I think that holy, eternal, infinite, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent God would condescend to love the likes of sinners like us, I am brought to my knees in worship. When I contemplate His love, I realize that if He can take a black deceitful heart, wash it clean with the red blood of His Son, and make it whiter than snow, He can do anything! That gives me confidence!

He Is the God of The Impossible! That should give us confidence today, regardless of what we face in this life. If He can save us, nothing is too big for God!

II. JEREMIAH'S CRISIS (Jeremiah 32:23-25)

A. Problems He Faced (Jeremiah 32:23-24)

While the people of God have been blessed, they have refused to walk in the will of the Lord. As a result, they are experiencing His judgment on their nation. Seeing the wrath of God being poured out firsthand causes Jeremiah some inner disturbance of the soul. He is perplexed by what he sees happening around him. It brings him to a time of crisis in his life, and yet, he knows this is what the Lord said would happen in verse 24. So, you have a holy man living during a time of unholy people. They are suffering for their sins, and he is suffering right along with them. I don't care how strong, or how well grounded you are, that would cause anyone problems.

It bothers us too, doesn't it? We have somehow gotten the idea that knowing the Lord somehow guarantees us freedom from the problems of life. Nothing could be farther from the truth. In fact, serving the Lord in a wicked hour like the one in which we live will guarantee us that we will face problems in our day just like Jeremiah did. God is judging our nation, and the people of God will suffer right along with it. As our economy suffers, we will suffer too. As morality and wickedness grow, that will affect us as well. Add to that the fact that Satan will see to it that God's children are hated, attacked, and persecuted, **2 Timothy 3:12**, and you have a recipe for spiritual crisis. If a person is not well grounded, there is always the potential that they will fall by the wayside when trouble comes their way.

B. The Plan He Followed (Jeremiah 32:25)

After Jeremiah is thrown into prison, he is commanded by the Lord to purchase a piece of property from his uncle, **Jeremiah 32:6-12**. This transaction caused Jeremiah some serious moments of doubt. Think about it, he is preaching to the people that judgment is coming. He is telling them that their nation is about to be destroyed and all the people are about to be taken away to Babylon as slaves. Yet, God tells Jeremiah to buy a piece of property.

Why do you buy property in the first place? Most people buy it because they have plans. Maybe they are going to build a home, start a business, make an investment in the future, or just have something to pass along to the next generation. Jeremiah is buying a piece of property he will probably never see, much less use. This transaction brought Jeremiah to a moment of crisis in his life.

The fact is, when the Lord works in ways that we do not understand, it leaves us perplexed as well. I confess to you there are many things I do not understand. I don't understand why babies and children must suffer or pass away at a young age. I don't understand why Great men of God have medical problems and suffer the way they do. I don't understand why some folks seem to have such a hard time making it through life. There are many things I don't understand, but if I focus on those things, I will have a moment of crisis as well. I must learn to look past the things I cannot fathom to see the face of the God who controls all things.

C. **The Predicament He Feared** (Jeremiah 32:25) - I think part of Jeremiah's crisis came from the fact that he didn't want to look like a fool. Here he was, in prison, buying a piece of land, when the nation was on the brink of destruction. Surely, he thought the people around him would think he had lost his mind. Isn't that a part of our problem sometimes? We know what the Lord wants us to do, and sometimes we even do it, but it often seems so unnatural and so strange to us, that we worry about what the rest of the world thinks about our actions. Nobody wants to look foolish to other people, but sometimes God's commands just don't make sense. Think about it:

- Moses was commanded to hold a stick over an ocean when the people of God were under attack - **Exodus 14**.
- Moses was commanded to cut down a tree and throw it into a pool of water to make it drinkable - **Exodus 15**.

- Moses was commanded to strike a rock so that the people of God could have water to drink - **Exodus 17**.
- The people of Israel were commanded to look at a snake on a pole to be healed of snakebite - **Numbers 21**.
- Isaiah was commanded to walk around naked as an object lesson to the king of Israel - **Isaiah 20**.

None of those things make sense to us, but they were all the will of God. Same with us; the Lord's will does not always make sense to our minds, but the secret to contentment in the service of the Lord is absolute obedience, even when we do not understand what He is up to. The fact is, we will never understand the Lord or His ways, **Isaiah 55:8-9**. Our duty is to trust Him despite what we do not know, or what we cannot see!

III. JEREMIAH'S COMFORT (Jeremiah 32:26-33)

The Lord speaks to Jeremiah to bring him comfort in the hour of his crisis. What God says to Jeremiah in these verses surely comforted his heart. These words can also comfort ours.

A. **He Was Comforted By God's Power** (Jeremiah 32:26-35)

God tells Jeremiah that He will indeed bring judgment upon the people of Israel because of their sins. Everything He has promised to do, He is able to bring to pass. God reminds Jeremiah that He is "*the God of all flesh,*" **v. 27**. God will judge Israel, and He will use the lost pagans of Babylon to do it.

God declares His power by asking Jeremiah a very simple, straightforward question: "*Is anything too hard for the Lord.*" The word "*hard*" means "*to be beyond one's power; to be difficult to do.*" God is simply saying that nothing is beyond His power and that nothing is too difficult for Him to do. May that truth encourage us today. God is still the God Who possesses "*all power in Heaven and in earth,*" **Matthew 28:18**. He is still the God "*who is able to do exceeding, abundantly above all that we can ask or think,*" **Ephesians 3:20**. He is still the God Who "*works all things after the counsel of His Own will,*" **Ephesians 1:11**. He is still God and that should comfort our hearts today.

B. He Was Comforted By God's Promises (Jeremiah 32:36-44)

God tells Jeremiah that the people of Israel will fall, and they will go away into Babylonian captivity. He also tells the prophets that He will bring them home again. He will gather them to Himself, and they will serve Him. He will be their God and they will be His people. In other words, the judgment they face will serve to purify them and they will return to Him, and to the place of His blessing. Same goes with us. The Lord uses the crisis in our lives to mold us, grow us, and develop us. He uses pain, hardship, suffering and the trials of life to make us more like Jesus, **Romans 8:28-29**. He is The God of The Impossible. He can take that situation you see as being so impossible and He can transform it into a time of blessing for you and glory for Him. Allow the comfort of God's promises to give you peace and encouragement regardless of what you face in this life. He will stand by them all, and not even one will ever fail.

*“I will bow down toward your holy temple
and will praise your name
for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,
for you have so exalted your solemn decree
that it surpasses your fame,”*

Psalms 138:2

“For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”

Matthew 5:18

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away,”

Matthew 24:35

C. He Was Comforted by God's Proclamation (Jeremiah 33:1-3)

The very God Who made the world and all that is within it, come to the prophet in his prison and makes one of the greatest prayer promises in the Bible. He is promised that if he will call on the Lord, the Lord will hear him, and He will answer him. Think about where Jeremiah is when this promise is made. He is in prison. He is living in the middle of a wicked people. He is living in a nation that is experiencing the awful judgment of Almighty God. Yet, the Lord wants Jeremiah to know that God cares about Jeremiah and about what the prophet is facing in his life. What a comfort!

It does not matter where you are today, He will hear you too. It does not matter what you are up against He will hear you. Not only will He hear you, but He will answer your prayers as well. He may not answer them the way you want Him to all the time, but He will always answer them correctly and in a way that brings glory to His name.

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

“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 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 good gifts to those who ask him!”

Matthew 7:7-11

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”

1 John 5:14-15

In Conclusion, let me ask you a serious question.

What are you facing today?

Whatever it is, it is not too big for Him.

- He can save you if you are lost.
- He can help you if you have a need.
- He can comfort you if your heart is broken.
- He can love you if you are lonely.
- He can restore you if you have fallen.

He is ***The God of The Impossible***. Let's come before Him today and bow to His will for our lives. Let's come to Him to seek His face. Let's come to Him to rejoice in His Person, His power, and His promises.



Date: May 22, 2022

Location: FCA

Time: 10:30am

After Service Song: Confidence