

MINISTRY: JEWELS FROM JEREMIAH

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It is a pity and it is grossly unfair to label Jeremiah as the weeping prophet, the misery, the depressive and the prophet of doom and gloom.

He served God, albeit it reluctantly at first because he was young and the message he had to give was of approaching captivity if the people of Judah did not repent.

But this prophecy is full of gems. In chapter verse 13 God says,

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Of course, this refers to the time of Jeremiah and the situation God's people were in but today people need to seek the Lord. Isaiah 55 verse 6 says

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found

There will come a time when the Lord may not be found but now we are living in the Day of Grace.

Jeremiah tells us that true seekers will find the Lord. Genuine seekers find that the Lord is genuine.

The character of God is further exemplified in chapter 31 verse 3 where the Lord says to His people

Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee.

Again, God is speaking to His earthly people but is this not true of all who are saved and accepted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour? Of course, it is.

God's love for us is not fitful, inconsistent or conditional. It is an everlasting love. He loved you yesterday; he loves you today; He will love you tomorrow and all the days of your life and one day present you faultless in His presence with exceeding joy (Jude 24ff). In eternity in Heaven we shall be with Him and we shall be like Him.

When the Lord Jesus went to the Cross and died for our sins all our sins were in the future. That is an amazing truth. How He must love us!

Human love can be changeable and unreliable but not the love of God, his love is shown in loving kindness. Not all human love is kind; it can have ulterior motives; it can be hindered by misunderstandings and temper.

The Lord Jesus referred to His coming death and crucifixion and said,

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me. (John 12.32)

Lifted up was he to die
It is finished was His cry.
Now, in Heaven exalted high
Hallelujah! what a Saviour!

The Lord's will is to draw all men to Himself. He is not willing that any should perish but that all come to repentance (2 Peter 3.9).

Jeremiah 31 and the end of verse 34 has the words of the Lord

For I will forgive their iniquity and I will remember their sins no more.

When we are saved and become Christians owning Him as Saviour and living the life that pleases Him, our sins are gone. God has cast all our sins into the depths of the sea and, as Canon Guy King said, "And God puts up a notice No Fishing!"

This is a further indication of the power and mercy of God.

In Jeremiah 32 verse 17 the prophet says,

Ah Lord God! behold Thou hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and outstretched arm and there is nothing too hard for Thee.

Of course, there are things that God cannot do. He cannot sin; He cannot lie; He cannot deceive.

But when it comes to spiritual and Godly things nothing is too difficult for Him. For example, read the anonymous epistle to the Hebrews chapter 7 and verse 25

He is able to save to the uttermost all those that come to God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.

We may look at our loved ones and despair that they will not be saved. They have no interest in eternal life. But nothing is too difficult for the Lord. We must persevere in earnest prayer and our asking and seeking should become persistent knocking.

The Lord answers Jeremiah in Chapter 32 verse 26

Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me?

In chapter 33 verse 3 invites us to

Call unto Me, and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not.

This is a personal message to Jeremiah who is now in prison. But if we pray and call to the Lord, He will answer and He is able to do and to show us things we do not expect.

So these jewels of Jeremiah show that if anyone is genuine in finding the Lord and salvation they will; that the love of God for those who accept Him is an everlasting love and a loving kindness. The Lord's will is to draw all to Himself so that they may be saved. He does not desire anyone to be lost and perish. He is the Lord who will forgive all those who come to Him in true repentance and He will answer the calls of His people.

My sin-oh, the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin- not in part- but the whole
Is nailed to His Cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord. It is well with my soul.

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