

*Prayer*  
1958 "Too Hard for God" 9/6/53

Scripture Lesson: -Jeremiah 32:

*m.u.*

Text: - Jeremiah 32: 17.

Introduction: - Jeremiah had climbed to a very mountain peak, although he was in a dungeon at the time he made this prayer. Yes, very often ~~he~~ make the dungeon a source of great blessing. John Bunyan, wrote Pilgrim's Progress while in jail. Very often when we are cast down, and are in the lowest position in the sight of the world, God lifts us to the very heights of glory.

He in this prayer declares, "there is nothing too hard for God". The God of Jeremiah was the same God as ours is. Yet he declares that there is nothing too hard for him. Let us look at the condition of God's people and see. When Moses, that prince of preachers, appeared in Egypt, Israel's condition seemed, humanly speaking, to be hopeless. There was not one star to relieve the midnight darkness. Israel had settled down to the idea that there were slaves forever. Oh, yes, there were a few of the older people who believed that there would be a change. But the majority thought that they were slaves forever.. The promises God had made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob must have died out of their memory. Their hopes all perished. It was then that Moses appeared. It was then that God through Moses began to do things for the people of Israel.

It was dark in the days of Jeremiah. Here was this weeping prophet. Because he wept so much ~~the~~ the people sneered at him. They ridiculed his prayers. They cast him into prison. They called him a pessimist. Nebuchadnezzar had already brought up his mighty army and laid siege to the city of Jerusalem. If he took the city the people would go back into bondage. Why? Because of their sins and iniquities. Undoubtedly, if they had listened to the weeping prophet, as he declared the warnings of God, the city, the nation would have been spared, for in all ages when a

man repents and turns from his sins, God hears and hears his cry and saves him. But the people did not hear the word of God, and cast Jeremiah into prison. He has a wonderful vision of God's power.

If you went across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans, you would think that it was a vast country. If you crossed the Atlantic to Europe, you would think that the ocean was a mighty body of water. You would think "what a wonderful God I have". Yet this planet is a mere ball thrown from the hand of the Creator. It is one of the smallest of planets. You could put almost a million of them into the sun and have room for a few hundred thousand more. We are told that there are 80 million other suns in the universe. The mind cannot take it all in. There is nothing in heaven, earth, hell, too hard for our God. Let us remember this. There is nothing too hard for God.

## II.

Yes, there is nothing too hard for God. The city today is a hard place to do God's work. The country too, for that matter. Do you suppose that New York is as dark as Babylon was when Daniel went there. Yet God used that man to illuminate the whole city, and lead that great king, Nebuchadnezzar, unto the God of the Hebrews. Think of the obstacles he had to encounter. He was a despised Hebrew captive. Yet he felt that there was nothing too hard for God. God stood by Daniel. Yes, God always stands by the one who dares to believe, dares to have faith, that God can do all things. The light that Daniel kindled is still shining. It is as bright today as it was in that far off day.

Take the city of Chicago. Some people who have tried it say it is a hard city to reach. Its population is largely of foreign, or of foreign descent. The Roumanians, Italians, Germans, and what have you, live in certain quarters of the city. There the theaters are open on Sunday, every train is chartered for

Sabbath excursions, every boat is spoken for, every band is out. People say it is beyond the reach of men. May be so. But is it beyond the reach of God? Do you think Chicago is as dark as Samaria in the days of Elijah, when Ahab and his court had gone after Baal, and people were banished from the country, or put to death because they loved God? The majority were all gone out for Baal and his cause. But there were seven thousand who had not bowed the knee to Baal. They were hidden somewhere. God can use his people, and how they shine, how bright the light when it shines out of darkness. These men stood out because they believed that nothing was too hard for God. It is a great mistake to be looking at the hindrances when we have so great a God to look at. How many people in New York, or Chicago or any other large city, are spending whole days and nights visiting the abandoned and the outcast? Perhaps there was never a day when so much work was done in these dark cities as there is today. Our God is just the same as He was in the days of Jeremiah, and if we call upon Him in faith, I believe that these dark days will turn into days of light.

*Our situation out here seems hard. People tell us its always been this way, can't get the community interested in the church but I havint given up. Im saying this great God, Jeremiah, Daniel, Moses, Samuel, How about you? Look at Jerusalem in the days of the apostles.*

The Savior had been slain by an awful death, and put into the grave. He had risen, but no one of prominence in the whole city believed it. A few unknown men and women, who professed to be his disciples, believed it, but there were no scholars or men of letters among them. But those few men believed that nothing was too hard for God, and they prayed, and shook the city to its foundations. There is nothing too hard for our God.

People say they have sinned, get discouraged, and say that their lives are dark and gloomy. But God can drive away the darkness, and the fog, and the mist that has gathered about you. Do not be talking about the difficulties in your life when you have such a God to call upon. He says, "Call unto me, and I will ans-

wer thee, and will show thee great things, and difficult, which thou knowest not.

But perhaps your prayers do not seem to be answered. Jeremiah's prayers were answered because he was right with God. We must be right with God, or our prayers will be a burden or an abomination to him. If there is some sin in your heart and life, you cannot expect him to answer your prayer.

Conclusion:- If there is anything in your life which you know to be wrong, do not sleep until you have made it right. Then you will get the greatest blessing you have ever had on earth. God delights to give gifts to the sons of men. "He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things." God gave his son without our asking, and now with him also he freely gives us all things. Let us expect God to hear and answer our prayers because we have turned away from everything that is contrary to His will, and because we believe that nothing is too hard for our God.

*Have you got some hard problem, some heavy burdens, take them to our great God. Are you burdened enough for our little church to take it to the Lord in prayer. Until we really make it a matter of prayer, we need not expect anything. How many will covenant with me to pray for our church this week, raise your hand.*