

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

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SERIES: Jeremiah, Part 2 (God's Certain Judgment)

TITLE: Program 16 - Nothing Too Difficult For God, Part 1

MONDAY

OPEN

Are you feeling overwhelmed, demoralized, devastated, thinking that you're in an impossible situation, that there's no way out, that there's no hope? O Beloved, today, we're going to look at that passage where He says, "'Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is [there] anything too difficult for Me?'" (Jeremiah 32:27) If you know God, I can guarantee you there is a way of escape.

PART ONE

""...Is anything, too difficult for Me?" (Jeremiah 32:27) That's what we're going to look at. We're going to see the setting of that verse that He is the God of all flesh and nothing is too difficult for Him. But before we get there we've got to backtrack, because if you remember I didn't finish Jeremiah 31. And in teaching you through a book of the Bible, I am reading every single verse to you. So when we eventually come to "Behold I am



the Lord, the God of all flesh; is [anything] anything too difficult for Me?" (Jeremiah 32:27) what you and I are going to see is that it is God that says that. And He means it, and He watches over His word to perform. (See Jeremiah 1:12) So if you're feeling crushed, if you're feeling so distressed, if you're feeling hopeless and despairing and thinking that there is no way out, that it is an impossible situation, I want you to know that you're going to find out: It may be an impossible situation, but not to a God who does the impossible. So now let's go back to Jeremiah 31. Remember Jeremiah 31, this chapter is like the crown jewel of the whole book because for the first time, for the first time the new covenant is spelled out; the new covenant that brings forgiveness of sins, the new covenant that puts His law not on tables of stone, but on tables of flesh, where we become His people and He becomes our God. So it's all spelled out here. Now the seedbed of all this truth has been in the Word of God since Genesis chapter 3, verse 15 when man sinned. And God promised in Genesis 3:15 that He would deliver man from his sin, and that He would crush the head of the serpent who convinced man that they could rebel against God and that God would never judge them. (See Genesis 3:15) Now we've come to the confession or the proclamation of the new covenant. And when He says this and He gives them this promise that "...[I will write it] on their heart...," verse 33 "... and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor [saying] and each man his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they will all know [the Lord]...." (Jeremiah 31:33-34) There's a day coming when all Israel will be saved. There's a day coming when all Israel, the Israel that's living then, the Israel that survives the judgment of God, when "...they will all know [the LORD], from the least of them to the greatest of them,' declares the LORD, 'for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." (Jeremiah 31:34) Now Jeremiah is all about confronting the people with their sin and calling them to repent, calling them to return,



telling them that He will heal their faithlessness. O faithless sons turn to Me and I will heal your faithlessness. (See Jeremiah 3:22) So it's all about that. It's all about the judgment that has to come because of sin. And He's telling them that, and now He's telling them about a new covenant that will take away their sin so that God will remember their sin no more. Then He makes this statement and this is where I didn't get to read. "Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; the LORD of hosts is His name." (Jeremiah 31:35) Now He says I'm the one that has established the sun for day. I'm the one that has established the moon and the stars for night. I'm the one that's in charge. I'm the one He says, "...who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar...," (Jeremiah 31:35) and we've had a lot of that. We've had the sea being stirred up. We've had earthquakes. We've had tsunamis and things like that. It says, "...The LORD of hosts is His name." (Jeremiah 31:35) When He talks about the "LORD of hosts" He's saying "Jehovah-Sabbaoth." In other words, He is in command of all the host of heaven, all the armies of the earth. He is over them all. And then He says, "'If this fixed order departs...," if the sun, the moon, all of that "...departs from before Me,' declares the LORD, 'then [then]...'" (Jeremiah 31:36) and I would put a time phrase around that, 'cause it shows you sequence of time, which is a green circle or a green clock. It says, "... Then the offspring of Israel will also cease...." Israel will cease to be a nation. "... 'From being a nation before Me forever," (Jeremiah 31:36) another time phrase; you want to mark it. He says if the sun stops shining for the day, if the moon and the stars stop shining for the night, if the waves of the sea cease to roar, if that stops, which is a fixed order, then I'm through with Israel. Has it stopped? Oh no, not since Genesis 1 when God spoke and it was so, it was brought into being. (See Genesis 1:3) So he says, "Thus says the LORD...." He's going to show you another one too. "... If the heavens above can be measured and the foundations



of the earth searched out below...." (Jeremiah 31:37) In other words, if you can go up to all the heavens and you can measure all the heavens and you can go down and you can drill and drill and drill and drill and drill until you come out the other side of planet Earth, then he says, "...Then I will...cast off the offspring of Israel for all that they have done,' declares the LORD." (Jeremiah 31:37) What is He showing you? He is showing you although the PLO, the Palestinians and others want to drive Israel into the sea, although they want to annihilate them, although they want to erase them as a nation on the face of this earth, although Ahmadinejad in, in 2009 and before when he came to power, wants to get rid of all the Jews, considers the Jews and the church enemies of Mohammed and enemies of Islam and wants to subjugate us, and that. Although all these men rise up, what He's saying is Israel will never cease from being a nation. Israel will never cease from being a people before Me. So it's fruitless to try and get rid of them. And this is what we're going to see this week. Yes, God is going to judge them. [Yes, they have turned their back on God. Yes, they have walked away from God. Yes, they have sinned. Yes, they have been caught up in their idolatry. Yes, they have forsaken the fountain of living waters, and yes, they have dug broken cisterns holes in the ground that cannot hold water. Yes, they have committed these evils.] (PARAPHRASE, Jeremiah 2:13) Yes, they have gone over to drink the water of the Euphrates. Yes, they've gone down to drink the water of the Nile. They've looked at Babylon to help them, and Assyria to help them. They've looked at Egypt to help them and they haven't looked to God. (See Jeremiah 2:18) Yes, they have done this. Yes, they have been disobedient, but He made a covenant with Israel. And that covenant is going to move them from the old covenant, the law, to the new covenant, when He will take away their sins and where He will write His law not on tables of stone, but on tables of flesh, on their hearts, when He will become their God, they will be His people. When their iniquity and their sin, He will remember no more. (See Jeremiah 31:31-34)



In other words, there is a future. In other words, there is a hope. And this is what God is saying to you. Maybe in the difficult situation that you're in, maybe it's of your own making, maybe it's because you didn't seek God. Maybe it's because you didn't listen to Him. Maybe it's because you just forgot Him and now you're in this difficult situation. But just remember: There is nothing too difficult for God if you will turn to Him. He says in verse 38, "Behold, days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when the city will be rebuilt for the LORD...." (Jeremiah 31:38) There is a day coming. I'm going to destroy Jerusalem. I am going to level it. The Babylonians are going to burn everything with fire. They're going to tear down the walls. They're going to destroy the temple. But there is a day, because I'm not through with Israel, because I have a new covenant for them, there is a day "... when the city will be rebuilt... from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. The measuring line will go [forth] farther straight ahead to the hill Gareb [and] then it will turn to Goah. And the whole valley of...dead bodies and of the ashes [with] all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate [from] the east, shall be holy to the LORD...." (Jeremiah 31:38-40) It's all going to belong to God. "Holy" means "set apart." It means "sanctified." It means "set apart for God's use, or God's glory." "... 'It will not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever [anymore forever]." (Jeremiah 31:40) Then we come to Jeremiah chapter 32. It is so awesome to note the time here. It says, "The word [of the LORD which] came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah...," tenth year; put a green circle around it or a green clock, "...which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar." (Jeremiah 32:1) It says, "Now at that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the guard, which was in the house of the king of Judah, because Zedekiah has shut him up, saving, 'Why do you prophesy...?" (Jeremiah 32:2-3) What was he prophesying? What's



going to happen? Why is the tenth year so important? We'll see in just a moment.

PART TWO

Welcome back to the tenth year of Zedekiah. Why is this so significant? Well, if you go back to 2 Kings you find out what's happening in the days of Zedekiah. So let's just go back to 2 Kings and let's get a little review, 2 Kings chapter 24, verse 18. "Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah." (2 Kings 24:18) It's not the same Jeremiah. "He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done. For through the anger of the LORD this came about in Jerusalem and Judah until He [God] cast them out from His presence. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon." (2 Kings 24:19-20) Chapter 25:1: "Now in the ninth year of his reign, on the tenth day of the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and... his army, against Jerusalem, [and] camped [around Jerusalem] and built a siege wall [against] it." (2 Kings 25:1) It says, "So the city was under siege until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land." (2) Kings 25:2-3) Now other Scriptures are going to tell us that they were so desperate that they are their own children. That's how bad it is in chapter 32. It is the tenth year. The siege has been going on for a year. In the eleventh year the siege is going to be over because the city has been taken. So watch what it says. Here is Jeremiah. He's in prison. Verse 3, "because Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, 'Why do you prophesy, saying, "Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I'm about to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will take it; and Zedekiah king of Judah will not escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans, but he will surely be



given into the hand of the king of Babylon...." (Jeremiah 32:3-4)
Don't miss next week's programs. "..."And he will speak with him face
to face and see him eye to eye; and he will take Zedekiah to Babylon,
and he will be there until I visit him,' declares the LORD. 'If you fight
against the Chaldeans, you will not succeed."" (Jeremiah 32:4-5) This

Zedekiah didn't like it so they took him prisoner. "And Jeremiah said, 'The word of the LORD came to me...." (Jeremiah 32:6) Now listen, it's

was Jeremiah's message to these people. And these people didn't like it and

an impossible situation. Here he is in prison. It's the eleventh year and "...'The word of the LORD [comes to Jeremiah] saying, "Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle is coming to you, saying, 'Buy

for yourself my field which is at Anathoth, for you have the right of redemption to buy it."" (Jeremiah 32:6-7) Now the land was to stay within the family. The land was to stay within the tribe. The land was not to be sold like if you were a Benjamite, you couldn't sell it to somebody from the tribe of Judah, or the tribe of Naphtali. You had to keep it within your

family. This was what God had given them. And so here is his uncle coming to him saying, you have the right of redemption. I want you to buy the land. Now Jeremiah knows. He's been preaching, hey, hey, we're gonna be taken into captivity. And here is God saying, your uncle's coming to you and he's going to tell you to buy the land. So this is what happened. It says,

"...'Then I knew...this was the word of the LORD," (Jeremiah 32:8) because what God prepared him for happened. He says, "'I bought the field which was at Anathoth from Hanamel my uncle's son...I weighed out the silver for him, seventeen shekels of silver." now catch this, "...'I signed and [I] sealed the deed [I] called in witnesses, and weighed out the silver on the scales." (Jeremiah 32:9-10) Seventeen shekels of silver, he's got the witnesses. He's signed the deeds. "Then I took the deeds of purchase, both the sealed copy...." (Jeremiah 32: 11) So here's a deed about this land and it is sealed. "...'Both the sealed copy containing the



terms and [the] conditions and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah...in the sight of Hanamel my uncle's son and in the sight of the witnesses...before all the Jews who were sitting in the court of the guard." (Jeremiah 32:11-12) I mean he's still a prisoner. But Hanamel has been able to come in and so he's sitting in the court of the guard, and this is what it says, then "... I commanded Baruch in their presence, saying, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Take these deeds, this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, that they may last a long time.""" (Jeremiah 32:13-14) Jeremiah knew by now that they were going to be in captivity for seventy years. But he also knew that they were coming back. He says, ""For thus says the LORD...the God of Israel, 'Houses and fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land,"" (Jeremiah 32:15) will again be bought. Precious One, right now you're in an impossible situation. You think that nothing will ever change. You think nothing is able to be done. You're in an impossible situation. But you've got to know that there is a God of the impossible. Watch what it says. "'After I had given the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, then I prayed to the LORD, saying, "Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You, [nothing is too difficult for You] who shows lovingkindness to thousands, but repays...iniquity of fathers into the bosom of their children after them, O great and mighty God. The LORD of hosts is His name; great in counsel...mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, giving to everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds; who has set the signs and wonders in the land of Egypt...even to this day both in Israel and among mankind; and You have made a name for Yourself, as at this day. You brought Your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and with wonders, and



with a strong hand and...an outstretched...with great terror; [You] gave them this land, which You swore to their forefathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey. They came in and took possession of it, but they did not obey Your voice or walk in Your law; they have done nothing of all...You commanded them to do; therefore You have made all this calamity come upon them. Behold, the siege ramps have reached the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans who fight [of] it, because of the sword [and] famine and pestilence; and what You have spoken has come to pass; and behold, You see it. You have said to me, O Lord GOD, 'Buy for yourself the field with money...call in witnesses'—although the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans." Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying, 'Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is [there] anything too difficult for Me?"" (Jeremiah 32:16-27) This, Precious One, is what you want to remember today. God is there. Nothing is too difficult for Him.