



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sermon Series: Dark Prophet Part 8

Sermon Title: When God is For You

Speaker/ Date: Segun Aiyegbusi/ March 17, 2019

Big idea: GOD IS FOR YOU, EVEN WHEN IT FEELS LIKE HE'S AGAINST YOU.

“God being *for* you” means that there isn’t a single moment in your entire life when God isn’t sovereignly caring and watching over your every step. If you are presently feeling the weight of God’s hand on your life, do not conclude that God has abandoned you or given up on you or is against you. If anything, He’s molding and shaping and refining of you for His next venture in your life because you’re going to need what He’s doing in you now, for where He’s taking you.

So, what does God being for you look like, even if experientially, you feel He’s against you? There’s 3 viewpoints:

VIEWPOINT 1: God’s Actions May Not Make Sense

Jeremiah is under guard in prison in the royal palace. The Babylonian military is pounding at the gates of the city trying preparing for an invasion. Just when hope is at an all time low, Jeremiah receives a visitor from his hometown. **Jeremiah’s 32:6-10**

Why in such a grim period, a time when God’s judgment is about to be poured on His people, would God instruct Jeremiah to buy this field at his hometown in Anathoth? Here’s the answer. **Jeremiah 32:15**

This was a prophetic act to illustrate what God was going to do for them after their discipline. God had every intention of restoring them back to their homeland so that they would once again buy homes, settle in it, marry and have kids.

VIEWPOINT 2: God Makes The Impossible Possible

Jeremiah is taking a huge leap of faith by buying a field when he should be liquidating all his assets for cash. Jeremiah is starting to have some second thoughts about the wisdom of his actions, and so in order to quell his anxieties, he turns to God in prayer. **Jeremiah 32:24-25**

Jeremiah 32:27, and in response to Jeremiah's question of how God would make the seemingly impossible, possible, God says, *"I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"*

You see, that's the question we all struggle with when we feel the weight of God's hand on our lives. Our struggle feels so final, so defeating, so dark, so impossible that it is almost incomprehensible to us how God could possibly get us out of it or bring any good out of it. Yet- God specializes in impossibilities. When your situation looks impossible and you can't see a way out, God is for you.

VIEWPOINT 3: God's Actions Are An Investment

In spite of the fact that the people were about to experience God's heavy hand of judgment, here was God's promise to them about their future, **Jeremiah 32:37-41**. Perhaps the most important piece in all these verses is the promise of an "everlasting covenant", or what is known as the new covenant.

The Old Covenant involved a lot of laws you had to follow and live in total compliance with in order to approach a holy God.

God mediated a new covenant through Jesus Christ, and here's how it works: On the cross, Jesus stands in your place as a substitute and absorbs within Himself the judgment you should have faced from God.

So, when you trust in Jesus, the penalty for everything you've ever done, said, and thought that falls short of God's holy standard is forgiven. As part of that new covenant, God sends His Holy Spirit to live in your heart as a constant guide so that the command to love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

Followers of Jesus Christ are partakers of the new covenant and God is in a relationship with His people for the long haul. This means He will never leave you or forsake you, therefore, you need to learn to trust God past the Goosebumps. GOD. IS. FOR. YOU!

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Explain a time when you were certain God was asking you to do something that did not make sense. Did you obey?**
- **Israel struggles to obey God and He disciplines them. In what ways are can you relate to Israel? What ways can you not relate?**
- **God told Jeremiah to take a huge leap of faith and buy property. When was the last time God asked you to take a huge leap of faith? What was the outcome?**
- **During a difficult time in your life- have you ever felt like God has abandoned you? What reason would God have for remaining silent when someone calls out to Him?**
- **God was familiar with and involved in the details of Jeremiah's life. Have you ever had a difficult situation that you were ale to endure because you knew that God was involved in the details? What was the final outcome? Explain**
- **God makes the impossible possible. Explain a time when you were facing impossible odds and God brought you victory. Did that affect your faith in God?**