

Jeremiah 39-42 – 10 August 2014

Who do you think of as someone who made it to the end of a long journey?

Samwise and Frodo, Christian in Pilgrim's Progress,
The Apostle Paul

What was their reward in the end? What will be your reward in the end?

For 38 chapters God thru Jeremiah has been warning the people to repent and start to obey Him. Today, after so long of the bad guys feeling as if they've won, Jeremiah and the true believers faith will become sight.

The Payoff: Just wait a SPELL and your faith in the Lord will pay off. Today's message will show us the 5 benefits towards us when the Lord set things right in the end.

Chapter 39

- Vs 1-10
 - The fate of Zedekiah – Maybe if he could reflect right now, he would know that Jeremiah's words to him this whole time have been loving, to turn him away from this end.
- Vs 11-18
 - **The 1st benefit towards us when the Lord sets things right in the end is simply life and not death.**
 - Remember Ebed-melech from Jer 38:7-13 pleading to get Jeremiah out of the dungeon?
 - This is the fundamental benefit that our trust in God brings us is life eternal.
 - John 17:3
 - Joh 5:24 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**

- It will not be like the rich man (and Lazarus) being eternally dead in hell then the Lake of Fire.
- You WILL live forever in total bliss with the Lord. You WILL NOT live forever in total shame and pain as lots of other people will.

Chapter 40

- Vs 1-6
 - **The 2nd benefit towards us when the Lord sets things right in the end is liberty.**
 - After being forced into prison, Jeremiah now experiences the liberty of going where he wants to go.
 - Liberty is to have a part in determining your future. You're not forced into a path or cast.
 - As Christians we have a blessing of having a part in determining our future.
 - Read Gal 5:1 – We're not forced into serving sin.
 - We now have the ability to stand in liberty.

- We will in the end have ultimate victory and liberty in choosing a future completely separated from sin
- Praise God for giving us these undeserved benefits!

- Vs 7-12

- Gedaliah is set up as governor to rule the few peasants that were left in Judah.
 - Gedaliah was g-son of Shaphan who was a scribe for King Josiah when the law was found.
 - Ahikam, father of Gedaliah, had sided with Jeremiah in chapter 26.

- Vs 13-16

- Johanan tells governor Gedaliah of Ishmael's conspiracy with the Ammonites to assassinate Gedaliah.

Chapter 41

- Vs 1-10
 - Vs 1-3 – Ishmael in league with the Ammonites assassinate Gedaliah.
 - Vs 4-10 – Samaritans came to mourn the destruction of the Temple and were murdered by Ishmael.
 - Vs 8 shows he was a selfish man.
- Vs 11-18
 - Ishmael is the perfect example of the one who, even in the end, won't submit to the Lord's way.
 - Look what it brings him...constant running.
 - **The 3rd benefit towards us when the Lord sets things right in the end is peace and rest. Cease from your labor to try and make things happen.**
 - Rth 3:1 Then Naomi her mother in law said unto her, My daughter, shall I not seek **rest** for thee, that it may be well with thee?

- Have you ever thought, “If I could just do this or get that, THEN I’d be happy!”?
- Ladies and Gentlemen, rest is coming from the Lord!!!

Chapter 42

- Vs 1-6
 - **The 4th benefit towards us when the Lord sets things right in the end is esteem. All the godly values that we esteem will finally be respected and have reputation.**
 - Look at the respect the Jeremiah now gains for his godly stand.
 - Moses
 - “Will you kill us as you killed the Egyptian?”
 - Then they followed him out of Egypt.
 - Daniel
 - Humbled to the status of Eunuch.
 - Promoted to the position of president.
 - Noah
 - Mocked for serving the Lord.

- Promoted to Father of us all!
 - We are seated in the heavenlys in Christ Jesus.
- Vs 7- 22
 - **The 5th benefit towards us when the Lord sets things right in the end is security and safety.**
 - Look at verses 10-12 again
 - OT Joseph
 - Fearing his brothers his whole life, fearing for his life in prison.
 - Living in the palace.
 - Not so for the ungodly
 - 1Th 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and **safety**; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.
 - Millions of people today don't have physical security.
 - Where will they be living in 20-30 years?
 - Will a family member be attacked today?
 - What we have food to eat next week?

- 3 times God thru Jeremiah says that in the end they shall dwell safely.
 - Jer 33:16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this *is the name* wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.
- This thought is all thru Ezekiel and Zechariah.
- Praise God for this truth, that we'll dwell in safety and security.

CONCLUSION:

We have to “Wait a SPELL” to see the Lord set things right in the end.

But in the meantime remember the benefits that are coming.

Let's conclude with the words of Psalm 103:1-2

Psa 103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.

Psa 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.