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YouTube Prayer Link

True freedom in suffering

In our suffering, we may cry out to God because of the results of sin, but I don't really want to turn away from sin, which is a very deceptive act. Like the Pharaoh of Egypt in the "Ten Plagues," he would have pleaded with Moses and even confessed his mistake to God, saying that he was wrong. But this does not mean that he has really repented of his sin, because when the plague is a little lighter, he immediately goes back to sin. When we are in suffering, it is likely that we do not want this suffering, and we cry out to God; When God, in His love, has relieved this result a little, we go back to the temporary joy that sin has brought to me, which will only have harsher consequences later. When we say "no!" to sin, we say "no!" It's true freedom. Everyone does what is wrong, this is not called freedom; What you don't do is true freedom. Accept the forgiveness of sins from Jesus Christ and you have true freedom.

Jeremiah 34 makes the word freedom profound. How many people in the world today want to pursue "freedom," but in reality we are actually seeking bondage from sin and judgment from sin.

Jeremiah 34 focuses on Zedekiah, king of Judah, making a pact with the people of Jerusalem promising the release of all Hebrew slaves and the declaration of freedom. But soon after, Zedekiah and the people broke this covenant and re-enslaved the slaves as theirs. Therefore, Yahweh spoke to punish them, destroy their nation, and deliver them into the hands of the king of Babylon. This chapter stresses the need to keep one's oath and covenant or suffer the consequences, when King Zedekiah made a covenant with all the people of Jerusalem about 587

B.C., when the Babylonian third invasion of Judah, 34:8-9, to declare freedom to all the people of Jerusalem, that every man should let his Hebrew servants and maidservants go out freely, and no one should make him a slave. 11 And then he repented, and called back the servants and maidservants whom he had set free, and complied them to remain servants. Zedekiah did not like to hear God's warnings, but he did not dare not listen to the soldiers who were in the city and the country was in trouble. If a person is afraid of God and unwilling to obey Him, he will deal with it by pretending. King Zedekiah wanted to use this to move the heavens and the earth, and to make the merit worthwhile.

Today, some people often have an urgent need to pray and pray to God to worship the Lord. As soon as things ease, they immediately return to reality and "regret it". Ostensibly, it's because the crisis has passed and life goes on; In fact, it is because they have not truly experienced repentance and forgiveness, so there is only benefit, no love, only fear, no reverence.

17 And I proclaim unto you the same freedom, that ye may be free from the sword, and from famine, and from pestilence, and that ye may be tossed to and fro among all the kingdoms of the earth. This is what the Lord has said. The law of that time was that if a Hebrew brother sold it to you and served you for six years, in the seventh year each of you would let him go free, which was an obligation of the law to the covenant people, not a good heart of the people, much less a merit that could be exchanged for salvation. Just as believers "will and do things, God works in you to accomplish his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13), so there is nothing to boast about, nor to exchange for grace.

The heart is more deceitful than all things, even deceiving itself, and not being willing to obey and repent is the greatest lie of self-deception. If a person "repents" simply because he is afraid of the consequences, such "repentance" is false and will not last. Job 42:6 Only a "sorrowful and contrite heart" that is "disgusted with oneself" is true repentance that God will not despise.

Today, there are also people who are under pressure to make a covenant with God, vowing to follow the Lord and give themselves. Once the pressure eases a little, the original form is revealed and the church is withdrawn. In this way, they disrespect the covenant they have made before God, thinking that they can dismiss God at will, and God will let the pressure come back and let those who think they are wise reap the consequences.

Let's pray together:

Abba Heavenly Father, pray that we will not value superficial freedom and cherish God's grace, so that we may willingly bow to God's covenant and live truly free. O Lord! Thank you for loving us with eternal love, and may we be drawn more deeply by your love so that I love you with all my heart, live a life of covenant with you, and ask you to give us wisdom and strength so that we can trust you fully and walk out of true freedom under your guidance. Lord, forgive us for our weaknesses, so that our lives may glorify You, and our hearts may cling to You. Your path

is full of peace and freedom, and please guide us so that our lives can be a testimony of Your grace and can bring hope and light to others.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Jeremiah 34

34:1 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took all his army and all the kingdoms and kingdoms of the land against Jerusalem and all the cities that belonged to him. At that time , Jehovah's words came to Jeremiah .

34:2 And Jehova said the God of Israel, Go and tell Zedekiah king of Judah, and thus Jehohua says, I will deliver this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will burn it with fire.

34:3 You will not escape from his hand, but you will be taken and delivered into his hand. Your eyes will see the eyes of the king of Babylon. He will talk to you mouth-to-mouth, and you will go to Babylon.

34:4 Hear the words of Jehovah, O Zedekiah king of Judah. And Jehovah said that thou hast said thus, Thou shalt not be slain by the sword .

34:5 You will die in peace. They will burn things for your sake, as your fathers burned them for the kings who came before you. They will mourn for thee, and say, Woe, my lord; yes and hua said , this is what i said .

34:6 So Jeremiah the prophet told Zedekiah king of Judah all these things in Jerusalem.

34:7 At that time the army of the king of Babylon was attacking Jerusalem and the remaining cities of Judah, namely Lachish and Azekah. These were the only fortified cities of Judah left.

34:8 King Zedekiah made a covenant with all the people of Jerusalem that he was to declare freedom to them, that every man should be free to let his Hebrew servants and his maidservants go freely, and that no one should make one of his brothers in Judah a slave. (After this , the words of Yahweh came to Jeremiah .)

34:9 See section above

34:10 And all the princes and all the people of the covenant will let their servants and maidservants go out freely, and no one will make them slaves anymore. The whole family obeyed and released them .

34:11 But he repented and gave back to his servants and maidservants whom he had let go freely, so that they might be slaves and maidservants.

34:12 Therefore the word of Jehohua came to Jeremiah and said,

34:13 Thus saith the God of Israel, "When I brought your fathers out of Egypt as slaves, I made a covenant with them, saying,

34:14 If one of your Hebrew brothers sells to you and serves you six years, then in the seventh year you will let every man go out as he pleases. but your fathers did not listen to me, nor did they listen to me.

34:15 Now turn around and do what is right in my eyes, and declare to your neighbor that you are free. and make a covenant before me in the temple that is called in my name.

34:16 But you have repented and blasphemed my name, and every man has called for the return of his servants and maidservants who are free to do so that they may be slaves.

34:17 So this is what Jehoah says, You have not listened to me, but every one of you declares his freedom to his brother and neighbor. Behold, I declare to you that you are free from the sword and the famine and the pestilence. and throw you to and fro in all the nations of the world . this is what ye and hua said .

34:18 And the princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, and the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, had split the calf, and divided it in two, and passed through it, and made a covenant before me. Later, he broke my covenant and did not obey the words of the covenant.

34:19 See above

34:20 And We will deliver them into the hands of our enemies and those who seek their lives. Their carcasses shall be given food to the birds of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth.

34:21 And I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes into the hands of their enemies and those who seek their lives, and into the hands of the army of the king of Babylon who has left you for a while.

34:22 And Jehohua said, I will give them a command to return to this city, and to fight it, and to take it, and to burn it with fire. And I will make the cities of Judah desolate and uninhabited.

Jeremiah 34 focuses on Zedekiah, king of Judah, making a pact with the people of Jerusalem promising the release of all Hebrew slaves and the declaration of freedom. But soon after, Zedekiah and the people broke this covenant and re-enslaved the slaves as theirs. Therefore, Yahweh spoke to punish them, destroy their nation, and deliver them into the hands of the king of Babylon. This chapter emphasizes the need to keep oaths and covenants or face consequences.

In Jeremiah 34, here are a few important verses and their meanings:

1. Jeremiah 34:2: "This is what the LORD God of Israel says: Go and tell Zedekiah king of Judah, and the Lord says: I will deliver this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will

burn it with fire." Here, Jeremiah conveyed God's word to Zedekiah, king of Judah, telling him that the king of Babylon would take Jerusalem and burn the city on fire.

2. Jeremiah 34:17: "Therefore thus saith the Lord: You have not listened to me, but have walked every man according to his own pleasure, and therefore I will bring upon you the sword, and famine, and pestilence, so that you will perish in the land which I have given you and your fathers." Here, God gave a warning to the Jews because they had disobeyed his command to free their slaves, but then they repented and re-enslaved them. Therefore, God announced that He would punish them by subjecting them to the calamities of war, famine, and disease.

3. Jeremiah 34:22: "Behold, I will command them to return to this city, and to fight against it, and to take it, and burn it with fire." And I will make the cities of Judah desolate, uninhabited. Here, God announced that he would command the king of Babylon to attack Jerusalem and destroy the city. In addition, he announced that the other cities of Judah would be turned into wasteland, uninhabited.

These verses emphasize God's requirement of loyalty and obedience to the Jews, as well as warnings and punishments for their infidelity and disobedience. These verses also reveal God's justice and sovereignty, as well as His punishment for sin.

Jeremiah 34 records Jeremiah's prophecy in Jerusalem about King Josiah of Judah. In this chapter, God warns Josiah through Jeremiah and talks about freedom. Here are just a few of the important theological central ideas and theological takeaways:

The Importance of Keeping Oaths: In Jeremiah 34, God accuses King Josiah of Judah and his people for breaking their covenant of freedom with the exiled Hebrew slaves. God emphasizes the importance of keeping promises, especially to the vulnerable. God expects people to keep their oaths and honor the covenants they make.

Consequences of breaking the covenant: In Jeremiah 34, God warned Josiah and his people of severe punishment for breaking the covenant of freedom. God prophesied that they would face defeat and misery, that the city would be captured by the enemy, and that the people would become captives. This shows God's attitude toward covenant breaking and disloyalty, and God holds people accountable for their oaths.

God's concern for freedom: In Jeremiah 34, God is concerned about freedom, especially those who are oppressed and exploited. God does not like the injustice and injustice of human beings towards one another. God wants people to enjoy true freedom, both in body and soul.

God's Justice and Mercy: In Jeremiah 34, God demonstrates His justice and mercy. God is angry at the violation of the oath, but at the same time He calls people to repent and turn to Him, and He is willing to forgive their sins. This shows the two sides of God's justice and love.

Overall, Jeremiah 34 emphasizes the importance of keeping your oath, warning of the consequences of breaking it, God's concern for freedom, and God's justice and mercy. The central idea of theology is to emphasize God's emphasis on justice, loyalty, and commitment to others. God expects us to keep our oaths and honor the promises we make to others. At the same time, God is also full of mercy and forgiveness when we make mistakes, and He is willing to give us the opportunity to repent and lead us back to the path of righteousness.