

**Jeremiah to Job**  
*Finding Light in the Darkness, Session 14*  
*Slide Notations – Cere Muscarella*

**Left off... Jeremiah!** The weeping prophet! Fully identified with the people he was called to serve! No pleasure in the words of judgment given to speak against the nation/sin! Brought him to the point of wishing he had never been born **20.14-18**

**Though you get to deliver messages for restoration, no one ever said speaking for God was an easy thing!**

*You will have to guard yourself against mere sympathy and constantly need to call on God for more and more strength in your empathy! Jer1.10-17*

**Ezekiel Notable...** “Through tribulation is rest!” Ezekiel was happily married... “And the word of the Lord came and said, ‘I will take away the desire of your eyes but I don’t want you to mourn, nor weep, not even silent tears... Do not cry, and no mourning for the dead.’” “I told them what the Lord said in the morning and that night my wife died!”

**You thought you had a tough job!**

**Ezekiel Notable...** “In the morning I did as I was told, I put on my hat and shoes and went out, no sighing, no funeral meal...” “And the people said, ‘will you please tell us what this means for us?’” “(Because of your extreme sinfulness) You are going to fall and I will not mourn for you, says the Lord!”

**We must always remember we serve the God who does not change! The rules of engagement have changed since Jesus... But the notion that our Dad speaks like a half witted old grandfather is completely ludicrous!**

**Daniel!** “God is my judge!” One of four notable Jewish kids brought into Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar! Daniel: Belteshazzar, Hananiah: Shadrach, Mishael: Meshach, Azariah: Abednego. Neb took best/brightest prisoners, renamed/enculturate them food/education... “*Wanted men who loved like Hebrews and thought like Babylonians!*”

**Daniel Notables...** “Refused the kings food and drink...” For their God-choice “God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams!” **1.17** “In all matters of wisdom and understanding that the king inquired of them he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers in his realm! **1.20** *Just proves vegetarians are smarter than meat eaters! LOL! JK!*

**Lesson: Obedient children have the edge on everyone else!**

**Daniel Notables...** “The God who reveals secrets!” **2.1-49** King wants his dream interpreted, but he couldn’t remember the dream! **v5** “No man can tell you what you dreamed! “No king has ever asked such a thing! “Wait!” there is one man, a praying man, with praying friends, and a God who reveals secrets! *Daniel reveals the dream and the king makes him the second greatest in his kingdom!* **v48**

**Lessons...** “what is impossible with men is not impossible with God!” **Mt 19.26 Mk 10.27 Lk 1.37, 18.27** Just because it hasn’t been done before doesn’t mean it’s not about to happen! It’s important to be a person of prayer and have friends who do! Include spiritual people in spiritual things! Great things are in store for people of great faith and don’t forget your friends!

**Daniel Notables...** “The furnace of fire...” **3.** You would think Nebo would get it! Makes an idol for himself, commands everyone to bow down/trumpet call. Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego – uh, uh! Heats the furnace seven times normal... Kills the servants throwing them in. “Why are there four walking around in there?” ‘Come out here boys!’

**Lessons...** Just because we demonstrate the kingdom one day doesn’t mean the same people are going to get it the next! They can be pretty scary looking when they feel challenged! Jesus is still there to meet us when we are forced to walk thru the fire! Shameless, risky faith, saves the day! Promotion comes from the Lord right in the midst of a secular kingdom!

**Daniel Notables...** “Nebo’s Nightmare!” **4.1-37** Dreams of a great tree, cut down to a stump... man turning beast for 7 years... Daniel’s slips into a waking coma... this spells doom... for us all! Spoke up anyway... 1 yr later king dethroned, lives like an animal in the fields... 7 yrs looks up and sanity restored! **“Now I praise and extol the King of Heaven whose works are truth!” v37**

**Lessons...** Just because we demonstrate the kingdom one day and they forget it the next doesn’t mean they won’t get it someday! As a servant to God and man you just have to speak the truth, no matter how hard, regardless of personal risk!

**Daniel Notables...** “New King... Belshazzar!” **5.1-30** Grandson of Nebuchadnezzar... doesn’t know God... cycle starts all over again! Hosts a drunken feast/using temple implements for the fest! “Hand, writing, on the wall” **v5**, king's festive face changed/terror **v6**, starts crying like a little girl **v7**, offers reward for whoever can interpret – can’t **v8,9**, hears about old guy named Daniel **v13**. “Weighed/found wanting” – dead! **v30**

**Lessons...** Really important to effectively pass the testimony of God down/2 generations! Kid died because he was not “humbled in his heart” though he knew the history! Retirement is not an option! Once again, Daniel exalted in new generation to third highest, for obedience! Not over yet!

**Daniel Notables...** “Another New King... Darius!” **6.1-28** Darius was 62 yrs old when he began! Made Daniel ruler of rulers/120 princes! About to name him 2nd/all realm! **v3** Jealous, other presidents and princes conspire/erect another idol/decreed! **v4-9** Daniel ignores the decree and gets cast into the lions den w/word! **v16** God delivered Daniel from the lions! **v20-23** King threw all the rest in! **v24** God exalted by Darius and new decree! **v26**

**Lessons...** (Old guys are smarter than young ones? Although they can be easier to confuse!!!) People may make plans against you, but the Lord is the protector of all who have faith! May go thru furnace/into lions/but coming out purified/without scratches/exalted! Stay in faith/God gets the glory!

**Daniel Notables...** “Touched by an angel!” **10** “3rd yr of Cyrus” Daniel fasting 21 days... Daniel’s fast: “no sweet bread, meat or wine...” (partial fast) **v2,3** Goes into open vision while surrounded by friends who saw/heard nothing but were shaken w/presence of God! **v7** Strength gone/prostrate/ touched/lifted on all fours! **v8-10** From 1st day set yourself/I was coming, but hindered/Michael helped me...

**Lessons...** Truly spiritual encounters will drain your natural strength! People fall out in the immediate presence of God! You can be experiencing the greatest moment with God and no one else is going to get it! We don’t have to wait for answers to prayer on hindered delivery lines now!

**End of the Major Prophets... but can’t leave first four sections of OT w/o dealing with Job... Job!**

**Job:** Because the style is so unique there is a struggle to place it on a timeline! Some think it predates Moses because there is no inference to the Law... Some think after the Babylonian exile of Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezra... Others think, because of references from **Ezekiel 14.14ff**, and echo's from **Ps 107.42** **Isaiah 14.5, 51.9**, and **Jeremiah 20.14** that it sits between Samuel/David and Isaiah!

**Job!** One of the most misunderstood books/ characters of the OT! The Patience of Job! **Jam 5.11** The Suffering of Righteous Job! "The Lord gives and the Lord takes away!" Being tested like Job! The Blessings of Job!

**Job!** In the introduction we read... "There was a man in the land of Uz that was perfect and upright and one that feared God and turned from evil!" **v1** Perfect; tam: not wanting, (nothing to do with sinlessness). Upright: yashar: straight. Feared God: pious/reverent. Departing/turning away from evil! Great guy who loved God/blessed by God!

**Job!** Satan, coming from journey to earth stands before God... **v6,7** "have you considered Job, none like him, perfect, upright, reverences Me, turns from offers of evil?" **v8** "He doesn't love you for no reason. You have protected and blessed him... but touch his stuff and he will curse you!" **9-11** "All the stuff in your hand – but you cannot touch him physically!" **v12**

**Job!** A day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking at the elder sons place... (Where was dad? Why?) Sabeans fell on them and took it all away! The fire of God is fallen from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants... The Chaldeans came and took the camels and slew the servants... Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking and a great wind came and the house caved in and they are all dead...

**Job stood and rent his mantle, shaved his head, fell down and worshipped and said, "I came in with nothing and I will leave with nothing... the Lord gave and the Lord has taken away blessed be the name of the Lord!" And in all this Job sinned not by charging God foolishly!**

**1st Lessons...** This is not a righteous man under attack for no reason, at the whim of God, as a test... God tests no man! God knows all men – to the core! Knows that none are righteous, not one! Must remove the suspicion that things are going to come out of the dark, from God, no matter how well you are doing!

The Lord did give him his stuff, He gives us the power to get wealth... But He didn't take it away... Sabeans, a massive lightning storm, Chaldeans, hurricane force winds did! Stuff was nothing, kids were something, moves to mourn mode... Shivah...

**The Bible records Job's words accurately, but it does not confirm his accuracy of the events taking place! "Blessed be the name of the Lord???"**

**Job!** There was a day... Satan appeared before the Lord... and the Lord asked, 'Have you considered my servant Job? That he holds fast even though I moved My protective covering w/o cause? God was not tempted by Satan to a throw-down with Job in the balance... He cannot be tempted with evil!

**Jam1.13** Just proves what a jerk the devil is! Why didn't he know God doesn't do anything w/o purpose? **FALLEN! DARKENED! DUMB!**

**Please... when you read scripture that doesn't make sense, don't push by it!**

**Job!** "Skin for Skin" and he will curse you... And wife said, Why retain your hold, curse God and die..." "You speak as a fool (devil's fool!) Do we only expect to receive good at His hand and not evil?"

Every good and every perfect gift comes down from the Father of lights! **Jam 1.17** “After 7 days Job opened his mouth and cursed his day!” (One week hardly calls for accolades of “patience!”)

**“Why didn’t I die at birth? I long for death more than treasure... my sighing is constant my roaring is as loud as the waters... for the thing I greatly feared has come upon me!”**

**Job...** A good man of his day... but no issue of bushwhacking/righteous w/suffering... Wasn’t so righteous! Hidden to the eyes of men are the failures and flaws of fear/anxiety/pride... God committed to perfecting us, controlled purification, to the day of our redemption- Engages the blind garbage manager! **Is 54.16** Have you considered? Seen thru hedge?

**Job...** Did suffer, but wasn’t so patient! Wife giggling him, mimicking devil... “Why not curse God and die?” 7 days after it became physical/failure!

**Out of abundance of heart mouth began betraying: ‘Wish I had never been born!’ Begins indicting God/arguing w/friends 36 chapters...**

**Job...** Spoke out of his pain/suffering... until God got tired of listening! “Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?” **38.1ff** Speaks out of humility... “I have spoken what I did not understand... I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes!” **42.3ff**

**“And the Lord delivered Job and gave him twice as much as before – He blessed him at the end more than at beginning!” 42.10**

**Asides...** NT believers are righteous, no testing required, and, this kind of assault is no longer a threat! Because the devil no longer has this access to accuse us (forgiven!)! “And Jesus said, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven **Lk10.18** – and he has come down to the earth w/great wrath because he knows he has but a short time **R12.12** – but I have given you power... and nothing will in any way hurt you! **Lk18.19**