**Jeremiah 33:17-26**

***“When God Seems To Have Failed”***

Introduction

1. Has God failed you?

2. Jeremiah 33:17-26 it seems as though God has failed:

Has God seemed to have failed?

**I. THE CASE, BASED ON THE PROBLEMS 33:23,24**

They allowed their troubles to cast doubt on God’s promises.

***A. Personal Struggles***

**1.**God is intimately familiar with your struggle, your frame of mind, and what you are

saying about the situation.

**2.** Doubt spreads! *“The word on the street was...”*

***B. Present Situations***

**1.** The *2 families* are Israel and Judah. Israel was taken captive by Assyria in 722

 B.C. He had chosen them. He had cast them off.

 **2.** Blame God! Forget that the people had sinned! They had no responsibility.

 **3.** The present situation is deceptive. It’s easy to jump to the wrong conclusion.

 *“They should no more be a nation.”*

**4.** When doubt is strong enough, BIG enough…the promises of God are forgotten.

 We live as though God and His Word are not valid.

**5.** It is then you question God. It is then life’s problems seem bigger than God.

***C. Practical Solution***

**1.** They knew what the Word of God said, they were schooled.

**2.** It just wasn’t relevant, because their personal problems were so overwhelming!

Has God seemed to have failed?

**II. THE CONFIDENCE, BASED ON THE PROMISES 33:17,18, 26**

Promises were made…3 are mentioned:

1. ***A King 17***
2. **Get the Promise Right…**The promise was made to David himself (I Sam. 17:16).

 A descendant will always be available to sit on the throne. Does it say someone will always

 be sitting on the throne? *David shall never lack a man.*

1. **Notice the Details of a Promise…**David *a man*, a human being…the fulfillment

 must be in a Jewish man!

1. **Promises May Seem Impossible! The promises may come at a very bleak time.** David will never lack a descendant to occupy his throne (34:2b-3a). Not long after

This, Zedekiah’s sons were slaughtered before his eyes. Then his eyes were gouged out and he

 was taken to Babylon in shackles (39:6-7). How could God keep His promise of an

 everlasting kingdom?

**\*** *All things work together for good…to those who love Him and to them called according to His purpose.*

*\*My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory…*

*\*I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.*

**4. The Promises May Not Be Fulfilled By Friday…**Jeremiah’s message: God will

 come through. Zedekiah (34:4, 5) the people built a funeral shrine in his honor

 (52:31-33). It shows that God never forgot His promise to David! Even though

 in captivity he was still: *King of Judah (*v. 31). God may be slow, but He is

 never late!

 **5. God Never Fails…Give Him Time…**

\*Jeremiah’s book demands a sequel. The sequel is (Matthew 1:11-12). Jeconiah is Jehoiachin. Generation after generation God preserved a succession of kings…until (1:16) Jesus…**His promise to David did not fail!**

**\***The Magi in (Mt. 2:2): *Where is He who is born King of the Jews?*

**\***The Triumphal Entry: *Hosanna…son of David…*

**\***The Cross: *Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews* It was written in 3 languages and noted in 4 Gospels.

 **\*Jesus reigns and keeps on reigning. One day He will come again and sit on David’s**

 **throne!**

 \*If Jesus were not the Messiah: God’s promise to David would have failed. **God can**

 **never fail!**

1. ***A Priest 18***
2. **A Promised Priest**

 **\***Messiah’s eternal kingship will be matched by His permanent priest hood.

 **\****Lack a man…*the incarnation was essential. In Jewish thinking, without a priest there

was no one to offer a sacrifice for their sins or to save them from the wrath of God.

 **\***This is a great problem for the contemporary Jew. The Jews do not accept Jesus as

Messiah. They have no one to atone for their sins. The temple in Jerusalem was

 destroyed in 70 A.D. and has not been rebuilt. No priests offer burnt offerings for the

 Jews. No Levite stands before God to make atonement for them.

 **2. A Permanent Priest**

 \*Unless Jesus is the Messiah…therefore the promise of a permanent priest has

 failed.

 \*If Christ is not the King, there is no king of the Jews. If Jesus is not the Messiah

 and Christ is not the priest, there is no priest for the Jews.

 **\*Jesus is a priest forever (Heb. 5:6) after the order of Melchizedek!!**

 **\***Jeremiah did not promise a priest **from** the Levites but **for** the Levites. The

 emphasis is on permanency (Heb. 7:23-25). The priesthood of Jesus is no

 temporary priesthood. Jesus can be trusted to provide salvation. Jesus offered

 sacrifice for sin on the cross. To this very day He stands before the Father’s

 throne interceding for His people.

 \*Our salvation depends upon God…not upon us. **God Never Fails!** Because

 God never fails…we cannot fail!

1. ***A Nation 24b, 26, 22***
2. **A Punished Nation 24b**

\*This is a renewal of the promise made to Abraham. The nation of Israel is a living testimony to the faithfulness of a promise keeping God.

\**They should be no more a nation 24b*

\*Sin must be punished. There is a price to sinning. The nations punishment did not negate God’s promise.

 **2. A Promised Nation 25, 26**

 **\****If day or night cease…then I will cast away…*

 *\**After 70 A.D. Israel was scattered, but they never lost their identity.

 \*1948 is a reminder that no matter how slow or unlikely are the promises of

 God…**God Never Fails!**

Has God seemed to have failed?

**III. THE COLLATERAL, BASED ON THE POWER 33:19-22, 25**

Do we have any guarantees? (31:35-37) We have the same guarantee as the New

 Covenant!

***A. God’s Word 19 His Character***

**1.** *Thus saith the Lord…the Word came (17, 19, 20, 23, 25)*

**2.** The ultimate guarantee is the character of God. Because of who He is…**it is**

 **impossible for God to lie!**

 ***B. God’s Witness 20, 25 His Creation***

**1.** *You cannot break my covenant…as night/day or as the ordinances of heaven and*

 *earth…*a nullification is impossible!

 **2.** God places the sun and moon. He offers the heavenly bodies as a security deposit for His

 covenant promise.

 **3.** God has established His covenant which makes science possible. Science depends on

 fixed laws of heaven and earth.

 **4.** Salvation is certain! Sunrise and sunset are reminders that God never fails! God’s object

 lessons are all around. The fingerprint of God is everywhere!!

***When God Seems To Have Failed...Look Up and Look Around!!***

***God’s Compassion Never Fails, Because God Never Fails.***

***He Can’t...He’s God!!!***