

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!
NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 3/28-29/2021
THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Jeremiah Chapters 32*

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS112, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).
THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER – Introduction *Jeremiah Chapter 32*

Jer 32:27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?"

Is Anything Too Hard For God? Gospel Light Youth Choir (3:00)

**It's out of your hands, you've done all you can do
You've given God the problem, it's no longer up to you**

**You've prayed the prayer of faith, you're standing on God's truth
While you're waiting on the answer He has a question for you**

**Is anything too hard for God? Who's got a problem beyond His pow'r to solve?
Are there situations He's not the master of? Is anything too hard for God?**

**Only believe, trust His word, you'll see, His plans are now unfolding, performing perfectly
It's clear how much He loves you, look at all He's done For all your questions there is really only One**

**Is anything too hard for God? Who's got a problem beyond His pow'r to solve?
Are there situations He's not the master of? Is anything too hard for God?**

**Is anything too hard for God? Who's got a problem beyond His pow'r to solve?
Are there situations He's not the master of? Is anything, Is anything, Is anything, too hard for God?**

THIS WEEK'S STUDY:

Chap. 32 – Jeremiah Buys a Field (vs. 1-15); Jeremiah Prays for Understanding; (vs. 16-25); God's Assurance of the People's Return (vs. 26-44).

- As we continue our journey through the book of Jeremiah, we are in chapter 32, this week. Jeremiah sets the scene, historically. In the first five verses, he tells us when it is that the Lord spoke to him, and what the circumstances were at that particular time.

Jeremiah Buys a Field During the Siege

Jer 32:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD—in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar.

- **Zedekiah reigned for eleven years**, and in the eleventh year of his reign, Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians. This is one year before the fall (587 BC). The Babylonians are besieging the city of Jerusalem. They're just about ready to take it. We're in the tenth year of Zedekiah the king of Judah, which also was the eighteenth year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. What detail! The Bible never reads like myths!

Jer 32:2 For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house. Jer 37:21 Then Zedekiah the king commanded that they should commit Jeremiah to the court of the prison, and that they should give him daily a piece of bread from the bakers' street, until all the bread in the city was gone. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

- **Jeremiah was a prisoner.** He was there in that prison ward that was in the court of the king's house, after 40 years of faithful ministry of telling the truth of the most important, but least listened to message on earth! Telling the truth, but now he is being locked up for it! We need to remember that we too, in proclaiming what is coming in the future – God's judgment, Jesus' second coming, our resurrection, eternity in heaven – will likewise suffer push back and heat from the world!

Jer 32:3 For (a reason) Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, "Why do you prophesy and say, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it;"

Jer 32:4 and Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape from the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him face to face, and see him eye to eye;

Jer 32:5 then he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there he shall be until I visit him," says the LORD; "though you fight with the Chaldeans, you shall not succeed?"

- **Now these are the things that Jeremiah is saying.** Zedekiah, the Lord tells you that Babylon is going to conquer the city! You're going to see the king of Babylon face to face and he's going to lead you captive to Babylon. They are going to capture the city. Now, this had a demoralizing effect on the people who were trying to defend the city against the Babylonian army. In fact, it was considered treason on the part of Jeremiah. They put him in prison, so he couldn't discourage the people. Now he is there in jail at the court of the king's house.

HEARING GOD SPEAK:

- **God speaks to men in different ways**, and it is good to train your ear to hear the voice of God. (*Heb 1:1-2*) *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, [2] has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;*
- *Jer 32:6 And Jeremiah said, "The word of the LORD came to me, saying,*
Jer 32:7 'Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you, saying, "Buy my field which is in Anathoth, for the right of redemption is yours to buy it."
- **The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah saying.** As we've been going through Jeremiah, over and over again, we've come across this phrase, "And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah saying," The question, how did God speak to Jeremiah? When the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, did he hear an audible voice? How could he be so sure that it was the word of the Lord?
- **How did God talk to Jeremiah?** The way He talks, "The word of the Lord came to me saying...", you think, man this guy's got a tight circuit! There's not even static on the line! He's got a good, clear connection with God, I mean, you know it really comes through clearly! That's the impression we get. How does God talk to you?
- **Right of Redemption:** This word of knowledge given to Jeremiah, will soon be confirmed. The purchase of the field with Jeremiah as the kinsman redeemer is type of redemption pointing to the Day of Redemption by our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ! **Four Requirements of the Kinsman-Redeemer:** 1 He had to be a near kinsman, related by blood. 2 He had to be free of debt Himself. 3 He had to perform work of redemption willingly! 4 He had to have the price of redemption.

Jer 32:8 Then Hanamel my uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said to me, 'Please buy my field that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin; for the right of inheritance is yours, and the redemption yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

- **Now evidently, as he was in prison, there came the thought in his mind.** "Hanamel's field is coming up for redemption. Maybe I ought to purchase it." Under Jewish law, when you went out and borrowed money on your property, you had a certain period in which to pay off the loan, or the property could be foreclosed on. Just like today. Within a specified period of time, you could redeem your property, or purchase it back again.
- **They would draw up these legal contracts, with two contract copies.** One would be an open contract that people could see; the other would be sealed, which would be used when the property is to be redeemed. The judges of the city would be called. You would bring in the witnesses. You would break the seals of the scroll. You would show the document that was the agreement that was drawn up. In this document, the amount of redemption money was specified. You would bring the judges and the witnesses together, open the seal and count out the redemption money. They would all sign to it that the property is now yours once more. It's reverted back to you.
- **Now, in this same law, if you, at the time the property was to revert back to you,** if you, personally weren't able to come up with the redemption money yourself, and if the property was

valuable, you could go to a kinsman, with your brothers being first, but any relative of yours had the right. They could step in and purchase the field, thus the property remained in the family. The idea was to keep the properties within the family, within the tribe. So, this reversionary clause was provided also for the close of kin. in every contract, when a property was sold.

CONFIRMATION TO A THOUGHT PLANTED IN YOUR MIND:

- **Hanamel was the cousin of Jeremiah. The field was in Benjamin, the territory that had already been conquered, been taken by the Babylonians.** To redeem the field, seemed like a very poor investment. Yet Jeremiah had this strong impression, "I ought to redeem it." Now, the next day, here came Hanamel in to visit him. He said, "You know Jeremiah, my field is coming up for redemption, and I thought maybe you ought to redeem it." Then Jeremiah knew it was the word of the Lord that came to me, that said, "Redeem the field of your cousin." This brought him a confirmation of that which was going on in his mind. Sometimes we are given a quick confirmation and other times not. By continuing to seek and listen to the LORD over time, we are given clarity. God does not want us depending on a formula or a mechanical way, but to depend on Him!
- **The Bible tells us that God is a Spirit, and that His Spirit bears witness with our spirit.** That we are sons of God. Man is a threefold being, body, soul, and spirit. With a natural man, his body and soul, his spirit is dead. When you are born again, your spirit comes alive, and now you are spirit, soul, and body. The mind being controlled by the spirit. Whereas a natural man, the mind is controlled by the flesh. The spiritual man, the mind is controlled by the spirit and the body is subordinate. The body doesn't rule. The body appetites don't rule. They're subordinate to the man who is born again. So, God's Spirit bears witness to our spirit, that we are the sons of God.
- **The place where I communicate and meet with God is in a spiritual realm.** As my spirit is in communion with God, and God is speaking to my spirit, my spirit then in turn, must transmit the message into my consciousness. Thus, it comes into my consciousness much like any other thought. There's an impression, there's a thought, there's an idea that comes into my consciousness.
- **How do I discern between what is God speaking to my heart,** and what is just coming from that mystic way by which our imagination operates? How do I know whether or not this thought is an inspiration of the Spirit of God, or this is just something that I dreamed up? It is a problem for and there is no formula or easy answer. We have to develop in our walk and communion with the Lord, to the place where we develop a keener, kind of discernment between what is of the Lord, and what is of man.

THOUGHTS FROM GOD OR FROM YOUR OWN MIND?

- **Peter in Caesarea Philippi:** When Jesus was at Caesarea Philippi with His disciples, He asked them the question, "Who do men think I am?" The disciples said, "Well, some people think you're Elijah come back from the dead, maybe Jeremiah, some think you're the other prophet." Jesus said, "Well who do you say that I am?" (*Mat 16:16-17*) *Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." [17] Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. "Simon you've just had a spiritual revelation. This didn't come from flesh and blood. My Father revealed this to you."*
- **Jesus began to tell the disciples how that He was to be betrayed,** turned over to the hands of the Gentiles, crucified and slain, and then He would rise the third day. (*Mat 16:22-23*) *Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" [23] But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." You haven't developed these discerning spirits." Peter got it right the first time, but not the second!*
- **As a believer grows in their walk and relationship with God,** the skills develop, and their ability grows in discerning what impressions and thoughts are coming from God and which ones are coming out of their own heart.

- **It is comforting for me** to know that when this unusual and seemingly unsound thought came to Jeremiah to, “redeem the field that belongs to your cousin Hanamel”, that it was just a thought. Jeremiah is writing of an experience that’s already occurred. In looking back and seeing how it worked out, he could say. But when that thought first came, he wasn’t sure of it. He waited and he tested it, and when confirmation came through the visit and request from Hanamel, Jeremiah saw it was a confirmation from the LORD!
- **It’s the same for us.** I want to step out if it is the Lord, but I don’t want to step out, if it is not the Lord. So, I will wait for confirmation and clarity. Often, as I’m reading the bible, confirmation will come from the scriptures. be a passage that will be so perfect, it fits so perfectly, that you just know that the Lord is speaking to you!

EXAMPLE OF SAMUEL:

- Now with Samuel, his mother brought him and dedicated him to the Lord. He was living then, with Eli, the priest. He heard his voice being called audibly. “Samuel!” He went running into Eli, and he said, “Did you call me?” “No, I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” He went back to bed, and soon he heard again, “Samuel!” Again, He went running back into Eli, who said, “What do you want?” He said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” But this time the old priest thought, maybe something’s happening here. So, he said, “If you hear the call again, just say, speak Lord, your servant is listening.” Samuel went back to bed, and he again heard, “Samuel!” He said, “**Speak Lord, I’m listening**”, and the Lord began to speak to him. **That was in an audible way.**

SPEAKING THROUGH AN ANGEL –

- In the New Testament, we find that the **Lord would often speak through angels.** Paul the apostle spoke on the ship, after they had been going for fourteen days, and it looked like, you know, there’s no hope, he stood up on the morning and he said, “Be of good cheer fellows! Everything’s going to be okay! An angel of the Lord stood by me last night and assured me that though the ship is going to be wrecked, there’s not going to be a soul lost. We’re all going to survive this shipwreck.”

SPEAKING THROUGH CIRCUMSTANCES:

- **God can speak through circumstances.** The bible speaks about how **God spoke through similes and similitudes**, and of how God can speak to our lives through circumstances. Then how God can **speak directly** to a person. Remember when Elijah had fled from Jezebel, and was down there in the area of Mount Sinai in the cave, and the Lord said, “Come on out to the entrance of the cave”, and he stood there, and there came a fire racing through there, but God wasn’t in the fire.
- Tremendous earthquakes, the rocks were splitting and rolling down the hill, but God wasn’t in the earthquake. Mighty wind! God wasn’t in the wind. Then there came a still small voice, and God was in the still small voice. God said, “What are you doing here Elijah?”
- **In this modern age, I believe that we may have a greater difficulty in understanding and discerning when God wants to speak to us.** Our technology has brought so many sounds, and our brains must be occupied in so many activities, that we are not really silent enough, or quiet enough before God to truly hear His voice. In Biblical times, when they went places, they walked. Walking is a great way to commune with God. When we are driving, we are so busy making decisions regarding the traffic, there’s no time for meditation or worship. The brain is too occupied. There needs to be a time of quietness.
- **God does still speak to people today.** We listen to radios all the time. tuning into sounds that are in the air. I believe that a person can learn to tune into God and can hear the Lord speak today. I think it is through prayer, through waiting upon God, through being quiet before the Lord.
- **It’s a matter of listening, it’s a matter of learning to hear the voice of God.** At times, I may have God speak to me so definitely that I had no question, but what this was God speaking to me. I could say, “The Lord spoke to me”, and I have no reservations. There are other times when I’m not certain. It’s a strong impression. It’s a feeling. Sometimes confirmation will come, like with Jeremiah. Until confirmation comes we need to wait and pray for clarification.
- **Sometimes when I thought maybe it might be the Lord, it proved that it wasn’t the Lord.** It’s something that I think that we all could develop. A keener sense of the Spirit and should seek to develop that keener sensitivity to the voice of the Spirit.

REDEMPTION

- **This transaction of Jeremiah purchasing the field, is interesting in that it does give us some insight into this particular Jewish law of redemption.** That whole law was established, that God might establish His pattern for the redemption of the earth. The earth originally belonged to God, because He created it. But then God created man, and He placed man upon the earth, and He gave the earth to man. God said to Adam, “Have dominion over the earth, the fish of the sea, the fowls of the air, over every moving and living thing”, and God gave to Adam dominion over the earth. It was his. With the instructions of, “Take care of it. Keep the garden, dress it. Take care of the earth.” But Adam soon sold out, and the earth was forfeited over to Satan, and Satan became the ruler, the possessor over the earth.
- **The bible says, “He is the prince over this world.”** Paul calls him the God of this world. Now, the world no longer belongs to God, because He gave it to man. It no longer belongs to man, he turned it over to Satan, and Satan began to rule over the earth, and over the hearts of men. So, the earth was in rebellion against God, as it followed the rule of Satan. Now it was God’s desire to redeem the earth, back to Himself. The whole contract has been drawn up in heaven.
- **The sealed scroll of Revelation chapter five.** When the day of redemption does come, we are told in *Rev 5:1* *And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. [2] Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" [3] And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. [4] So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. [5] But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." [6] And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. [7] Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.*
- **Now, the interesting thing is that if man can’t redeem it, then that right goes to the one who is next of kin.** That is why Jesus became a man, so He would have the right of redemption.
- **Jesus paid the price of redemption, by giving His life.** He became one of us, next of kin, lived a sinless life, and through His death, He paid the price of redemption. Now, He has not yet put all things in subjection unto Him. Satan is still in control. But one of these days in the very near future, because we’re going to be in that heavenly scene, and hear the angel say, “Who can take the scroll and loose it? Who is worthy?” We will watch Jesus as He steps forth and takes this document, breaks the seal, and then in chapter ten, we see Him come with the open scroll and He puts one foot on the sea, one upon the earth, and He says, “The kingdoms of this world have now become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Savior, the Messiah!” Glorious days!!
- **We see this whole idea of redemption worked out. Hanamel comes to Jeremiah** and says, “You know, that field, it’s coming up for, you’re my cousin, you have the right, why don’t you redeem it!” Then Jeremiah said, “I knew it was the word of the Lord that came to me saying, redeem the field.”

Jer 32:9 So I bought the field from Hanamel, the son of my uncle who was in Anathoth, and weighed out to him the money—seventeen shekels of silver.

- ***So I bought the field!*** Note the obedience of Jeremiah! As soon as he was sure it was from God to purchase the field, having received confirmation, he bought the field! It’s important to note the right order here of Jeremiah! God has made it clear that it is His will for Jeremiah to purchase the field, even though it would seem so irrational, considering the land was worthless in that had already been taken by Babylonians. But Jeremiah obeyed! Then he will ask, not demand, his questions – Why Lord? Do we practice that order, or do we delay obedience until all our questions are asked?

Jer 32:10 And I signed the deed and sealed it, took witnesses, and weighed the money on the scales.

- He set out *the scales*, and he weighed out *the money*, in the balances and he gave it to him with the witnesses and all.

Jer 32:11 *So I took the purchase deed, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open;*

Jer 32:12 *and I gave the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, son of Mahseiah (who was the scribe – his seal has actually been found in the Jerusalem ruins!), in the presence of Hanamel my uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses who signed the purchase deed, before all the Jews who sat in the court of the prison.*

- Jeremiah did it in front of them all, *presence of the witnesses*, so that they could bear witness

Jer 32:13 *"Then I charged Baruch before them, saying,*

Jer 32:14 *"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Take these deeds, both this purchase deed which is sealed and this deed which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may last many days."*

- *Take these deeds* and put them in a clay pot and bury them so that they will be preserved for many days.

Jer 32:15 *For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land." "*

- Jeremiah may have gone through a period of buyers' remorse. After he had done this, thinking, that was a stupid thing to do! The Babylonians are already camped out there in the field. Why did I do that? Seventeen shekels of silver wasted! I'll never be able to plant that field or anything! Sometimes with us, there is no evidence of God's will in the circumstances that we're living in, but God's word is sure!

Jeremiah Prays for Understanding (*You, You used 19X – me used 1X – 90% re who God is and has done!*)

Jer 32:16 *"Now when I had delivered the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying:*

- Jeremiah's prayer. He begins the prayer by addressing it to **Lord GOD!** Jeremiah uses "You/Your" 19X; "me" 1X!

Jer 32:17 *'Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You. (Gen 18:14) Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."*

- **First of all, he is acknowledging GOD, and the power of GOD, and what GOD is.** 90% of the prayer is given to the Jehovah God that he is talking to. He is the creator of the universe. Jeremiah reminds himself of God's *greatness*, His *power*, His *love*, His *grace*, His *wisdom* and His *counsel*—that there is nothing too hard for God! So important! To get our minds on the greatness of God and off the greatness of our problem! Before we begin any prayer, we need to acknowledge the greatness of God! We must do this to enable our giving our problem to God and leaving it there. Failure to be reminded of that, results in our not really giving the situation to God and taking it back, really nullifying our prayer. Remember our Lord's Model Prayer!
- **There's nothing too hard for God! We need to remember that when we pray.** There are many things that are too hard for us! But *there's nothing too hard for God.* When a doctor shakes his head and says, "Sorry, there's nothing we can do. It's beyond the ability of medical science. They probably have six days to two weeks. Oh, it's all. It's over". Lord *there's nothing too hard for You* and I'm amazed at how many people are still around that the doctors gave six months to, fifteen years ago.

Jer 32:18 *You show lovingkindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers (You're a just God) into the bosom of their children after them—the Great, the Mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts. .*

- *the Great, the Mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts.* Jehovah who rules over the hosts of heaven. The millions upon millions of angelic hosts. Jehovah hosts.

Jer 32:19 *You are great in counsel and mighty in work, for your eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men (You're watching us, You see us and You are absolutely just!), to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings. (Jer 17:10) I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.*

- **You are a fair God!** You are a loving **God!** You are a powerful **God!** You are an all-seeing **God!** He is just going over the characteristics of **God.**

Jer 32:20 *You have set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, to this day, and in Israel and among other men; and You have made Yourself a name, as it is this day.*

- You are a **God** who has a great reputation!

Jer 32:21 *You have brought Your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, and with great terror;*

- **You are a delivering God!** You are a faithful **God!** You are a **God** who keeps His covenant, who keeps His word!

Jer 32:22 *You have given them this land, of which You swore to their fathers to give them—"a land flowing with milk and honey."*

- **God was faithful to His word,** He kept His covenant and oath! The faithfulness of God is observed and acknowledged by the prophet!

Jer 32:23 *And they came in and took possession of it, but they have not obeyed Your voice or walked in Your law. They have done nothing of all that You commanded them to do; therefore You have caused all this calamity to come upon them. Neh 9:26 "Nevertheless they were disobedient And rebelled against You, Cast Your law behind their backs And killed Your prophets, who testified against them To turn them to Yourself; And they worked great provocations.*

- **They haven't kept Your commandments.** **God,** You are fair, even in this time of judgement, it's deserved by them. It is the failure of the people!

Jer 32:24 *'Look, the siege mounds! They have come to the city to take it; and the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans who fight against it, because of the sword and famine and pestilence. What You have spoken has happened; there You see it!*

- **Outside the city, the Babylonians were building these mounds** to bring up their engines of war to come over the walls of the city. God had already told Jeremiah that the Babylonians are going to conquer Jerusalem.
- **Within the city they were experiencing a lot of bloodshed.** They were killing each other. Whoever had food was in danger because the gangs would come and kill them and take their food. They were going through horrible, horrible things in Jerusalem at this time. The Chaldeans are here, they're getting ready to take the city, it's ordained that they're going to take it. What Jeremiah is saying, does come to pass.

Jer 32:25 *And You have said to me, O Lord GOD, "Buy the field for money, and take witnesses"!—yet the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans.' "*

- **Why Lord, would you ask me to do that, when You've given the city to the Babylonians?** It must seem that God is inconsistent. He's having problems now, seventeen shekels of silver! I'm not even going to be able to use it! It's sort of an "Oy vey" prayer. Why would you have me do that? Faith investment here!
- **Now it's interesting that that's all-Jeremiah's prayer is.** It's just expressing his own confusion. He doesn't do that until he affirms all that God is. The majority of the prayer was exercised in worship of God. Focusing on God. What God is. Who God is. The greatness of God. For the most part, the prayers in the Bible are focused upon God, rather than upon the need. We need to learn to focus our prayers on God and keep the need as just sort of a postscript!
- **Acts chapter four is a great example of this,** when the apostles were threatened by the authorities not to speak the name of Jesus, they prayed! They focused on God! (**Act 4:31**) *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*

- **There's nothing too hard for Him!** It's good to come to this kind of consciousness in prayer. It's a great faith builder.
- **When you focus on God, your faith grows.** When you focus on your problems, your faith just sort of has a way of just, departing. The problem gets so big. But you focus on God. "Lord You're so great, Oh wow, You're so loving, and You keep your word, and Your promises, and Lord, You have promised. Oh! You show signs and wonders! You focus on God and the problems just get smaller and smaller.
- **Jeremiah was focusing on God and then he finally gets to the request.** The request was just an expression of his confusion of what has just transpired. " Lord, I don't know why You would have me do such a foolish thing.

Jer 32:26 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

Jer 32:27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me? Luk 18:27 But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." (How can a rich man enter the kingdom of heaven?)

- **God answered his prayer.** You're right! ***I am the LORD, the God of all flesh.*** Then, He takes Jeremiah's declaration (There's nothing too hard for you), and He asks the question, ***Is there anything too hard for Me?***
- **Lord there's nothing too hard for you.** It's a good question! There is nothing out of control in your asking that question. Think about that one again Jeremiah! Do you really believe what you're praying (vs. 17)? You're a loving **God**, and you show Your love. You show Your lovingkindness unto the thousands. Lord it's just Your love is manifested profusely among the people. When we are going through a period of real personal trial or strength, it's good to know that God loves us. It's so good to be assured that He loves us!

Jer 32:28 Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it.

- **Reaffirming that the city was going to fall to Babylon.** God says, ***"I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it."***

Jer 32:29 And the Chaldeans who fight against this city shall come and set fire to this city and burn it, with the houses on whose roofs they have offered incense to Baal and poured out drink offerings to other gods, to provoke Me to anger;

- ***The Chaldeans shall come and set fire to this city and burn it, with the houses on whose roofs they have offered incense to Baal and poured out drink offerings to other gods.*** This city's going to be burned. This city's going to be destroyed. Today in Jerusalem, in Ophel, the city of David, you can see a layer of ashes about 4 inches thick, which is the ashes of the city of Jerusalem from the fire of the Babylonians.

Jer 32:30 because the children of Israel and the children of Judah have done only evil before Me from their youth. For the children of Israel have provoked Me only to anger with the work of their hands,' says the LORD.

Jer 32:31 'For this city has been to Me a provocation of My anger and My fury from the day that they built it, even to this day; so I will remove it from before My face

- **Jeremiah confessed this in his prayer.** The people of this city were to be my people, but they have only provoked Me, from the beginning.

Jer 32:32 because of all the evil of the children of Israel and the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke Me to anger—they, their kings, their princes, their priests, their prophets, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Jer 32:33 And they have turned to Me the back, and not the face* (So rude, such an insult, turning to idols!); ***though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not listened to receive instruction. Eze 8:16 So He brought me into the inner court of the LORD's house; and there, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, and they were worshipping the sun toward the east.**

- **They turned their backs on God.** They wouldn't listen to the word of God. They hardened their hearts to the things of God. But worse than that, they have worshiped the other gods. We are pretty clear on God's attitude and His faithfulness is toward us, but we, most likely, need to be more aware of what our relationship means to Him! Consider our obedience to Him, versus our disobedience and idolatry toward Him! What I do in this relationship, He takes personally!

Jer 32:34 But they set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to defile it.

Jer 32:35 And they built the high places of Baal which are in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire to Molech, which I did not command them, nor did it come into My mind that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.'

- **Down in the Hinnom Valley, they built these places of the worship of Baal and of Molech.** They would build these fires and they would throw their children in the fires for this god *Molech*, the god of pleasure. God said, "This is an abomination. It has never come into my mind." God never wanted that kind of a sacrifice, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin. It was a way of abortion in those days. It was really sort of the final straw, this abortion, that said, they've got to be judged.

They Shall Be My People; I Will Be Their God

Jer 32:36 "Now therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, 'It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence:

- **Yes, the city's going to be destroyed, but now God's talking about the future.**

Jer 32:37 Behold, I will (12X) gather them out of all countries where I have driven them in My anger, in My fury, and in great wrath; I will bring them back to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely.

- *I will bring them back.* When the final tally is in, I'm going to **bring them back**, and they're going to *dwell safely* here.

Jer 32:38 They shall be My people, and I will be their God;

Jer 32:39 then I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever, for the good of them and their children after them.

- **God makes it clear to Jeremiah, I'm having you buy this land because it is consistent with My promise that I'm making through you that they will come back into the land.** Anyone can just prophesy but when a prophet like Jeremiah, does what he says, when he puts his money where his mouth is, it is a tremendous witness to the people! Although this property now appears worthless, one day it's going to be very valuable!

Jer 32:40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.

- **There's going to come a glorious day** in which the nation again, is going to worship *God*, truly, fully, completely! *They won't depart from Me!*

Jer 32:41 Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will assuredly plant them in this land, with all My heart and with all My soul.'

- **Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good!** (*Zep 3:17*) *The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."* Just imagine, Almighty God rejoicing over you! To do you good! It's hard to believe that our LORD would rejoice over us, so prone to sin and unfaithfulness! But He rejoices over as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride! We do not read anywhere that He rejoices over the mountains or stars, but He delights in us, in the sons of men! He delights in His people!

- **I'm going to plant them here in this land!** Partial fulfillment in return from the Babylonian captivity, but the greatest fulfillment will occur, still future, when Jesus comes the second time!

Jer 32:42 "For thus says the LORD: 'Just as I have brought all this great calamity on this people, so I will bring on them all the good that I have promised them.

- As sure as I'm going to bring this *great calamity*, I am going to keep this promise of good! God loves happy endings!

Jer 32:43 And fields will be bought in this land of which you say, "It is desolate, without man or beast; it has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans."

Jer 32:44 Men will buy fields for money, sign deeds and seal them, and take witnesses, in the land of Benjamin, in the places around Jerusalem, in the cities of Judah, in the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the lowland, and in the cities of the South; for I will cause their captives to return (temporal captivity from Babylon; spiritual captivity from sin, Satan, and the law!),' says the LORD."

Summary:

- The LORD tells Jeremiah to be a kinsman redeemer for cousin's field in Anathoth, already or soon to be conquered by the Babylonians.
- Confirmation to word of knowledge by personal visit from cousin, shortly thereafter, gives us insight how the LORD spoke to Jeremiah.
- Obedience of Jeremiah, even though the buying of the field seemed irrational.
- Jeremiah prays for understanding, asking, but not demanding, an answer to "why", first recognizing of who and how great God is, remembering is there anything too hard for God?
- In buying the field under such conditions, in putting his money where his mouth is, powerfully demonstrates his belief in God's promise to restore Israel back to their land – first, after 70-year captivity and eventually for all Israel in the Kingdom Age!
- This property redemption was to really say to the people, God's ultimate purpose for you is good.
- Not every Christian lives in the way described by Jeremiah. It's a powerful witness, to demonstrate our practice and willingness to live for the kingdom which is to come, investing in a very glorious future, long before that future ever gets unveiled. God does much the same thing for us as well, promising all who believe eternity with Him!
- This whole chapter is setting the stage for redemption. This piece of land is under the enemy's territory, like that of the present world being under the enemy's territory. But God has another plan for it! He has a future for us!
- The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah and gave to him the reason he was to buy the field was to give a sign to the people of his confidence in the word of God, that God would return them from their captivity. They would again dwell in the land, and property would be bought and sold and occupied in the land again. It was a witness to the people. That was the first response to the Lord.

Application:

- Learn to listen to the LORD as He speaks to us. To discern which is from Him and which is from our flesh, responding to the situation. When we're sure it's of the LORD, obey and move in accordance with His call, as Jeremiah did!
- Take our questions as to "why" to Him, prayerfully, asking, not demanding; prefacing our prayer with His greatness, causing us to realize the how huge He is and how small our problem becomes. This will enable and help us to turn our concerns over to Him and leave our burden with Him, rather than take it back, thereby nullifying our prayer. Remembering, as God said, *"Is there anything too hard for Me?"*
- As a Christian, we are to invest in the future, praying for others to be born again, to have that close relationship with You! We are to layup treasure not on earth, but in heaven! Fellowshiping with one another advancing the kingdom of God in our little period of human history. To live in this age, for an age to come, confusing those around us, by doing things demonstrating that we're putting our money where our mouth is. Investing our lives in eternal things, which, when done, is indeed a powerful witness.

- **Ensure that there are examples in our Christian walk of putting our money where our mouth is; to not only talk the talk, but to walk the walk! To live this life, not concerned in experiencing all the worldly things, but to invest our lives, not in what is here, but in Your will, LORD, with our focus upon the glory of the life that awaits us. The promises that are on the other side. Are we doing this?**

Closing prayer: