

GOD DREW NEAR

Jeremiah 2:32 and Lamentations 3:49-60

“Can a virgin forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.” (Jeremiah 2:32)

.....

Is this not a heart-rending verse? A verse to touch us with a depth of understanding that God yearns for us to be living in intimate communion with Him and in trusting, thankful dependence upon Him, ‘seeing’ and living in the certainty of His unfailing love and faithfulness.

As we read this verse in Jeremiah and then turn to the book of Lamentations, (also written by Jeremiah), in chapter 3 we see that he was chosen to be a prophet of God, a man of intercessory prayer, suffering much anguish of spirit in his grief over the rampant sin of the land. The people had ‘forgotten God’. God, our Creator and Redeemer, was waiting to be given the trust, love, thanks, praise and obedience of which He was, and is, worthy.

In speaking the word that God had given him to a rebellious people, Jeremiah experienced much emotional anguish and physical suffering resulting in being arrested by those who opposed his message, and thrown into a pit, to be left to die. Death would certainly have followed him into the pit. His situation looked hopeless, with no way out, BUT Jeremiah knew his God.

Jeremiah cried out in trust to the God whom he knew had power to deliver. He trusted that if it was God’s will for him to be delivered from this circumstance then he would be.

“I CALLED upon your Name, O Lord, from the lowest pit;

“You have HEARD my voice;

“You DREW NEAR on the day I called on You and said

‘Do not fear’;

“O LORD, You have PLEADED the case for my soul;

“You have REDEEMED my life.” (Lamentations 3:55-58)

Jeremiah cried – God drew near;

When?-On the day that he called.

Immediately!-Right there at the moment of need and in the place of need.

Following this, the God of the impossible turned the heart of King Nebuchadnezzar to order Jeremiah's release from the pit.

What a wonderful picture of redemption! The very moment we respond to God's gracious drawing of our hearts to repent of our sins and to put our trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, we are 'called out of darkness into His marvellous light' (1 Peter 2:9) receiving total forgiveness of sin and a new life in Christ.

Through Christ, the Father has brought every believer out of the 'pit' of the darkness of sin into His wonderful redemptive light and made us safe in His amazing Love.

The pit could not hold Jeremiah because he had a Saviour!

.....**And so do we!**