

The Other Ethiopian Eunuch

(Jeremiah 37-38)

- Introduction:
1. Most Bible students could relate the story surrounding the conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch.
 - a. He serves as an example for us today.
 2. However, unknown to some and forgotten by others, is another Ethiopian Eunuch, named Ebed-Melech.
 - a. He too, should serve as an example for us today.

I. Historical Background Of The Text

- A. Babylon was besieging the city of Jerusalem (37:5).
- B. Babylon received news that Egypt was coming from the South to help Jerusalem, so they temporarily lifted their siege (37:5).
- C. During this time, Jeremiah prophesied that Babylon would return and destroy Jerusalem (37:7-10).
- D. Jeremiah was arrested, charged with being a traitor (37:11-16).
- E. King Zedekiah sends for Jeremiah and Jeremiah tells him the bad news. After counsel, the King decides to imprison Jeremiah once again (37:17-38:6).
- F. This is when Ebed-Melech came to Jeremiah's defense (38:8-13).

II. Practical Lessons From This Ethiopian Eunuch

- A. He knew the difference between right and wrong.
 1. (Isaiah 5:20).
 - a. What God calls an abomination, we call gay (Romans 1:26-27).
 - b. Taking innocent life is called choice (Proverbs 6:17).
 - c. Rejection of God is called scientific fact (Romans 1:20-22).
 - d. False doctrine is called Christian liberty (2 John 9-11).
- B. He had concern for another in the midst of his own personal trouble.
 1. (Matthew 22:34-40).
 2. (Romans 12:10).
 3. (Philippians 2:4).
- C. His concern led him to action.
 1. (James 2:14-17).
 2. (Luke 10:29-37),
 3. (James 1:22; 4:17).

- Conclusion:
1. Just as in the days of Jeremiah, God needs people of courage and compassion today.
 2. Would you have stood up for Jeremiah if you were one of his contemporaries?
 3. Will you stand up for Jesus today?