

## Lost In The Credits

### *Ebed-Melech*

(Jeremiah 37-38)

- Introduction:
1. Most Bible students know the story of the Ethiopian Eunuch.
  2. But few know the story of the “other Ethiopian Eunuch.”
  3. Let’s see what we can learn.

#### **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. (Jeremiah 38:9).
  2. (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. (Jeremiah 38:7-8).
  2. (Matthew 22:34-40; Romans 12:10; Philippians 2:4).
- C. His concern led him to action.
  1. (Jeremiah 38:9-11).
  2. (James 2:14-17; Luke 10:29-37; James 1:22; 4:17).
- D. He went the extra mile.
  1. (Jeremiah 38:12).
  2. He did what he could to make his rescue comfortable.

- 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?