

Fact Sheet for **“God Will See You Through”**
Jeremiah 32

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Today we will be in Jeremiah 32. You may not know the events of this chapter, but you may very well have memorized a few of its words.

The Bible describes God as omnipotent. He is also a God who shows great love to those who are his. But he is also a God of justice who will judge sin.

This was a dark time in Israel's history. They were a conquered people. Jerusalem would soon be burnt. Many were already in exile in Babylon. God was judging the sin of the nation as a whole but at the same time was maintaining his faithful love to those who were truly his. And God had the power to see all of this through in the events of history.

As we go through this chapter think of how God's faithful love, his justice, and his omnipotence have been, are, and will be seen in the events of our day. [Read Jeremiah 32:1-2.](#)

Using the Jewish calendar the 10th year of Zedekiah ended in October of 587B.C. Using the Babylonian calendar the 18th year of Nebuchadnezzar began in April of that year. So this was roughly the summer of 587B.C. It was during Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd siege of Jerusalem which would last until the next summer.

Jeremiah had been imprisoned by Zedekiah for what the king perceived to be treasons prophecies. [Read Jeremiah 32:3-5.](#)

Remember that years earlier Nebuchadnezzar had already conquered Jerusalem once. But they were still rebelling against him so he came again against them. This time he would make a full end of it.

While Jeremiah was in prison God told Jeremiah about a visit he *was going* to receive. [Read Jeremiah 32:6-7.](#)

Hanamel would be following the Mosaic Law which called for a person to redeem (or purchase) the property of a relative who was forced to sell it so that it would not leave the family (Leviticus 25:25-28). And it happened just as the LORD told Jeremiah. [Read Jeremiah 32:8.](#)

Those last few words **“Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD”** do not mean that Jeremiah was not sure about God's revelation to him. Instead when Hanamel did visit then Jeremiah knew *why* the LORD had told him about Hanamel's visit.

The village of Anathoth was already under Babylonian control. Why would anybody buy a piece of property that was already in enemy hands? But in the way it happened Jeremiah knew that this was from the hand of God. God would use this purchase to illustrate something to the people of Israel. So Jeremiah made the purchase. [Read Jeremiah 32:9.](#)

Seventeen shekels of silver is only about the size of seven of our silver dollars. It is interesting that Jeremiah had this amount with him in the prison.

Then Jeremiah signed the deed (actually two copies) and gave some special instructions. [Read Jeremiah 32:10-15.](#)

The reason for the earthenware was so that the deeds would last for a very long time. It would be many years before the people returned from their captivity in Babylon. But when they did houses and fields and vineyards would again be bought by the people of Israel in the land.

Remember all this transpired in the 18th year of Nebuchadnezzar. It was in King Jehoiakim's 3rd year that Nebuchadnezzar first laid siege to Jerusalem.

ESV Daniel 1:1 ¶ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

That was around 605B.C. and was the beginning of the Babylonian captivity. Jeremiah 32 took place in 587B.C. So there were still around 52 years left before the people of Israel would return to Jerusalem. That's still a long time. Many would not be alive to see it. This was the reason for the earthenware jar.

Then we see some verses that many of you have already partially memorized... because of a chorus we sing. Jeremiah begins a prayer with these words.

¹⁶ ¶ "After I had given the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying: ¹⁷ 'Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you. ¹⁸ You show steadfast love to thousands, but you repay the guilt of fathers to their children after them, O great and mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts, ¹⁹ great in counsel (plan, purpose) and mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of the children of man, rewarding each one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds.

God is omnipotent. He who made the heavens and the earth can certainly direct the unfolding of history. He is a God of steadfast love. But his steadfast love will not be showered on everyone regardless of their choices. This is because he is also a God of justice who will judge sin. He rewards each one according to their ways. It is said elsewhere as well as here that he also repays the guilt of the fathers to their children. Then Jeremiah continued his prayer. [Read Jeremiah 32:20-25.](#)

The remainder of this chapter is the word of the LORD to Jeremiah. Jerusalem would certainly be destroyed (Jeremiah 32:26-35). But they would certainly return one day to the land (Jeremiah 32:36-41). Then God referred back to Jeremiah's purchase of a field and the deeds to illustrate his future blessing (Jeremiah 32:42-44).

Now, let's revisit the words that inspired our chorus.

¹⁷ 'Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you. ¹⁸ You show steadfast love to thousands, but you repay the guilt of fathers to their children after them, O great and mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts, ¹⁹ great in counsel (plan, purpose) and mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of the children of man, rewarding each one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds.

These words are just as true today as they were in Jeremiah's day. How are the events in Washington D.C. and the government shutdown going to play out? Will the wall get built? Who will be elected in 2020? Will the governor and the legislature of our state tax us into oblivion? Will political forces pressure us to use non-binary gender language? I don't know the answers to those questions. But I do know that God still is in charge of history. I do know that God will continue to be absolutely faithful in his steadfast love for us. I also do know that God will surely judge the sin of people and of nations. Don't be afraid of what the future will bring. Keep your love for the LORD strong and trust in him. God will see you through.