

THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR **Jeremiah 36-40**

Tonight, we will consider four of Jeremiah's friendships and seek to learn principles that we can apply to being a good friend.

I. **AHIKAM** (26:8-24)
** A Protector Friend*

- A. THE SITUATION (8-15)
 - 1. A national uproar over Jeremiah's message (8-11)
 - 2. Jeremiah's response (12-15)
- B. THE PROTECTION (17-24)
 - 1. The Defense (17-23)
 - 2. The Defender (24)
- C. EXAMPLE: Jonathan with David - I Sam. 19:4-6

II. **BARUCH** (36 & 45)
** A Partner Friend*

- A. BARUCH'S COWORKER MINISTRY WITH JEREMIAH (36)
 - 1. Secretary for Jeremiah (1-4)
 - 2. Spokesman for Jeremiah (5-19)
 - 3. Second Edition from Jeremiah (27-32)
- B. JEREMIAH'S COMFORTING MINISTRY WITH BARUCH (45)
 - 1. Baruch's Woes (3)
 - 2. God's Warning (5a)
 - 3. God's Way (5b)
 - 4. God's Word (5c)
 - 5. Jeremiah's Wisdom
- C. EXAMPLE: The ministry of Barnabus and Paul - Acts 9:26-27 and 11:25-26

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III. **EBED-MELECH** (38-39)

** A Prompt Friend*

A. JEREMIAH'S RESCUER (38:7-13)

1. A quick response (7-9)
2. A courageous response (9)
3. A correct response

B. GOD'S REWARD (39:15-18)

1. Deliverance from adversity (16-17a)
2. Deliverance from enemies (17b-18a)
3. Delivered for his faith (18b)

C. EXAMPLE: John with Jesus - John 18:15

IV. **NEBUZARDEN** (39-40)

** A Pardoning Friend*

A. HE FREED JEREMIAH FROM PRISON (39:11-14)

1. The King's Instructions (11-12)
2. The Captain's Compliance (13-14)

B. HE FREED JEREMIAH FROM CAPTIVITY (40:1-6)

1. Acknowledging God's Plan (2-3)
2. Offering Jeremiah Freedom (4-5a)
3. Providing for Jeremiah's needs (5b)
4. Jeremiah goes to live with Gedaliah in Mizpah (6)

C. EXAMPLE: Jesus with believers - Eph. 4:7-8

CONCLUSION:

These friends are unknown to us but meaningful to those they served.

- What kind of friend are you?

Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend *gives delight* by hearty counsel. - Proverbs 27:9

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