

THE KING WITH TWO FACES

Jeremiah 37-39

**Tonight, let's look at and learn from the life of Zedekiah,
the king with two faces.**

I. A FAVORABLE KING

- A. CONCERNED FOR HIS PEOPLE (37:1-10)
- B. CURIOUS ABOUT GOD (37:16-17)
- C. MERCIFUL TO JEREMIAH (37:18-21)
- D. REASONABLE WITH EBED-MELECH (38:8-11)

II. A FAULTY KING

- A. IMPULSIVE JUDGMENT (32:1-5)
- B. PASSIVE LEADERSHIP (38:1-6)
- C. FEARFUL COWARDICE (38:14-19)
- D. DISOBEDIENT RESISTANCE (39:1-10)

III. MAN'S FALLEN CONDITION

- Like Zedekiah, we as fallen creatures are characterized
by much the same faultiness as his.

A. IMPIOUS

1. Zedekiah wanted to know about the truth but not follow it
 - Curiosity without commitment
2. Exp: Pilate - John 18:37-38
3. App: We have the same issues! - See James 1:5-6
 - But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

B. INDIFFERENT

1. Zedekiah hoped for God's favor but resisted His advice
2. Exp: Naaman - II Kings 5:9-12
3. App: We are in danger of doing the same thing and finding life difficult - Prov. 13:15
 "Good understanding produces favor, But the way of the treacherous is hard."

C. IRREVERENT

1. Zedekiah wanted to selfishly manipulate God for his own benefit
2. Exp: Jonah - Jonah 3:10 – 4:3
3. App: In our pride we fail to properly honor God - I Peter 5:5b-6
 for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. ⁶ Therefore
 humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you
 at the proper time

CONCLUSION:

Aren't you glad that God, in His grace, gave His Son Jesus Christ for two-faced sinners like us?

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*All Scripture is from The New American Standard Version - Updated
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