



Ebed-Melech

Jeremiah 38

Political parties in Judah

1. Numerical majority, Jer.37:19; 38:4

2. True majority, Jer.38:2-3

Babylon will win

You must surrender!

Four characters (Jer.38)

Princes
38:4, 6

Zedekiah
38:5

Jeremiah
38:6

Ebed-melech
38:7-13



I. He Could Be Counted On, 7-10

What could Ebed-melech do?

- Preach? Lead singing? Lead prayer?
- Can we be counted on?

I can't do anything

Why don't they do something

- 3 Jn.5-8



I. He Could Be Counted On, 7-10

II. He Used What He Had, 11

What he could have done

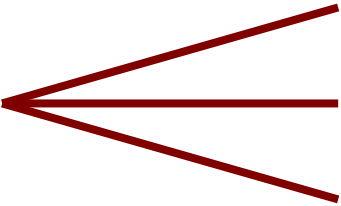
- Panicked
- Doubted himself (v.11; ct. 5)

Jer.38:11-12

Right
action

Gentle
manner

Mt.25:14-30

- If only 
 - I had good education
 - I could teach / preach
 - I had a million dollars
- 2 Co.8:12

No one is too lowly to serve God

- Ex.3-4, wrong tongue
- Mk.14:8, wrong person
- Ac.4:13, poor training
- 2 Co.12, poor health

Who
could
have
done
better?



I. He Could Be Counted On, 7-10

II. He Used What He Had, 11

III. He Was An Alien, 7, 10, 12

Not one Jew came to help

Mt.23:29-33

- A Gentile cared more about God's prophet than Jews did. Jer.2:32
- Jer.39:18, *trusted* God
 - Lk.16:8, 10-11, worldly people
 - Ro.10:1-3, religious error



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III. He Was An Alien, 7, 10, 12

IV. He Swam Against Current, 9

Ebed-melech: politically incorrect

- We must be unafraid to defend truth
- Elders . . . preachers . . . Christians
- The least we can do:

If we can't
take the lead,
at least support
those who do

If we can't
be a Jeremiah,
at least be an
Ebed-melech



I. He Could Be Counted On, 7-10

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V. God Rewarded Him, 39:15-18

“Life...as a prize to you”

- *“as booty”* (NASB); *“as a prize of war”* (ESV) – 39:18
- As hunter snatches an animal, Ebed-M snatched his life from destruction

Unexpected gain

Ac.8

Unsurpassable gain

Whatever happened to . . .

Princes?
(Rebels)
God's judgment

Zedekiah?
(Hypocrite)
Nebuchadnezzar

Jeremiah?
(Faithful)
Spared from exile

Ebed-melech?
(Faithful)
Role model for us