

FACING TOUGH TIMES

A dramatic scene of a city under siege. The city is built on a hillside with stone walls and domes. Thick, dark smoke rises from the walls, suggesting a fire or battle. The sky is filled with heavy, grey clouds, and the overall atmosphere is one of despair and conflict. The foreground shows a field of tall, dry grass and some wooden ladders leaning against the walls.

Jeremiah 38-39



THESE ARE DIFFICULT TIMES.



FACING TOUGH TIMES

- Our text shares information about three men who were facing tremendously difficult times in Jerusalem.
- The focus of our lesson this evening is to show how they handled the situations confronting them.
- The background depicts the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians.

FACING TOUGH TIMES

- *Our story describes.....*

A MAN OF FEAR

- King Zedekiah
- Afraid of the officials
- Afraid of the Judean deserters
- Afraid of Nebuchadnezzar
- Should have feared the living God- Matt. 10:28

FACING TOUGH TIMES

- *Our story describes.....*

A MAN OF FEELINGS

- Ebedmelech (the original Ethiopian eunuch)-
- Servant of the king, who couldn't stand the thought of Jeremiah the prophet suffering.
- Went to the king personally to beg for the prophets release.
- Then went to get old garments to help lift him up.

FACING TOUGH TIMES

- *Our story describes.....*

A MAN OF FAITH

- **Jeremiah**
- **Kept preaching an unpopular message.**
- **Mistreated by the people and the king.**
- **What a man of courage knowing the fate the people intended for him down in that cistern.**

FACING TOUGH TIMES

- **What about the fate of these men?**
 - Zedekiah witnessed the annihilation of his family and his nation. He died a coward and lost.
 - Ebedmelech's life was spared because of his kindness and trust in God.
 - Jeremiah was delivered and instructions were given by Nebuchad. to look after him well.