Are You Seeking Great Things for Yourself? (Jeremiah 45:5)

Tony Mauck · Jeremiah 45:1–5

INTRODUCTION

- Archaeological discovery only corroborates people, places, and events in the Bible.
- An item appeared that was later identified as the Bulla or seal of Baruch, the son of Nariah, the scribe.
- We're going to study the whole story of Baruch as the Bible tells it, as he's mentioned in just four chapters in the book of Jeremiah.

1 Understand the Times in Which Baruch Lived

- For two decades plus, Jeremiah has been prophesying of doom and destruction. And his message has fallen on deaf ears.
- He was prophesying submission to a foreign king, a foreign emperor whose God was Marduk.
- The message of Jeremiah, there is a glimmer of hope, the promise of a new covenant.
- Both of these messages in 36 and 45 relate to the reign of Jehoiakim.

2 Jehoiakim Cuts It and Throws It Into the Fire

Jeremiah 36:27–32

- In chapter 36, he sends Baruch to preach to the people.
- As three or four columns of the scroll is read, he cuts it and throws them into the fire.
- How obstinate and rebellious and stubborn is this king.
- God doesn't forget anything that's been revealed.
- And many similar words were added to them.

3 Trouble by Association

- He is identified as an associate of Jeremiah, who is the prophet of God.
- He is more than just the writer of words, but is a believer of the words.
- Troubles may come to you when you take a stand for what is right and what is good.
- We're not promised exemption from trouble, even among the Lord's people.

4 Are You Seeking Great Things for Yourself?

Jeremiah 45:1–5; 1 Peter 5:7

- Do not seek them. For behold, I am going to bring disaster on all flesh, declares the Lord. But I will give your life to you as booty in all the places where you may go.
- There are bigger things going on, Baruch, than your own personal circumstances.

- Your private drama is not the bigger issue here.
- In the midst of this momentous working, God takes the time to instruct Baruch.
- God does not leave his own unattended.

5 The Impact of Your Faithfulness

1 Corinthians 12; 1 Corinthians 10:11

- Three bright spots in a dismal era for God's people.
- It is awful. Put your hope and trust in God anyway. And who knows? People may be talking about you for centuries.
- I can advance God's cause in a significant way in ways that I can't even begin to fathom.
- You have no idea how significant your impact is.
- Don't ever think your little contribution, whatever it is insignificant.

THE CHALLENGE

Play your role. Play it with all the strength and courage and faith that you can muster. And the reward will be worth it all.

MY NOTES