

# Jeremiah 39:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Go and speak to Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring my words upon this city for evil, and not for good; and they shall be accomplished in that day before thee.

## Analysis

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The Ethiopian eunuch Ebed-melech receives a personal prophecy of deliverance for his kindness to Jeremiah (38:7-13). God notices and rewards those who show mercy to His servants. While Jerusalem falls, this foreigner is saved because he 'put his trust in the LORD.' Faith, not ethnicity, determines one's standing before God - a preview of gospel inclusivity.

## Historical Context

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Ebed-melech risked his position to rescue Jeremiah from the cistern. His courage and kindness in the king's court stood in stark contrast to the officials' cruelty.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does God remember and reward acts of mercy done to His people?
2. What does Ebed-melech's faith teach about God's salvation extending to all who trust Him?

## Interlinear Text

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כֹּה	אִם ר	הַכּוֹשׁ י	מִ לְךָ	לְעֶבֶד	אִם ר	הֵל וְךָ
H3541	Thus saith	the Ethiopian	to Ebedmelech	H0	Thus saith	Go
	H559	H3569	H5663		H559	H1980
מִבִּי	הִנְנִי	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	אֱלֹהֵי	צְבָאוֹת	יְהוָה	אִם ר
H935	Behold I will bring	of Israel	the God	of hosts	the LORD	Thus saith
	H2005	H3478	H430	H6635	H3068	H559
לְטוֹבָה	וְלֹא	לְרָעָה	הִזְאת	הָעִיר	אֵל	דְּבָרֵי
H2896	and not for good	for evil	H2063	H5892	H413	my words
	H3808	H7451			H1697	H853
הַהוּא:	בֵּי יוֹם	לִפְנֵי יְיָ	וְהָיָה			
H1931	and they shall be accomplished in that day	before				
	H3117	H6440				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Daniel 9:12** (Word): And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem.

**Zechariah 1:6** (Word): But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not take hold of your fathers? and they returned and said, Like as the LORD of hosts thought to do unto us, according to our ways, and according to our doings, so hath he dealt with us.