

MORNING WORSHIP

12 August 2018

Text: **Jeremiah 12**

Title: **“If you have run with the footmen and they have wearied you”**

YEARS DOWN THE ROAD

Jeremiah 1-12

1. Problems encountered
2. Personal distress felt
3. Powerful enemies encountered

WHAT GOD EXPECTS AFTER HIS PROVISION

1. For behold, I have made you
2. A fortified city
3. And an iron pillar
4. And bronze walls

THE SOMBRE REALITY

1. The doubts that Jeremiah expressed
 - a) Why does the way of the wicked prosper? (Jeremiah 12:1)
 - b) Why are those happy who deal so treacherously? (Jeremiah 12:1)
 - c) How long will the land mourn? (Jeremiah 12:4)

2. What Jeremiah felt

- a) Discouragement
- b) Despair
- c) Detrimental doubts
- d) Depressive tendencies
- e) Dangerous preoccupation

GOD'S CANDID RESPONSE

1. Dealing with the problem of weariness

- a) If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you (Jeremiah 12:5)
- b) Then how can you contend with the horses? (Jeremiah 12:5)

2. Dealing with the problem of discouragement (weariness felt)

- a) And if in the land of peace, in which you trusted, they wearied you
- b) Then how will you do in the floodplains of the Jordan? (Jeremiah 12:5)

THE SOLUTION TO THE NEGATIVE FEELINGS WE HAVE

1. Maturity of faith and understanding

Do not believe them (Jeremiah 12:6)

- a) Treachery in the family
- b) Seeing beyond smooth words

2. Deeper knowledge of God's will I (Jeremiah 12:7-13)

- a) Concerning the house of Israel
- b) Judgment will come upon the sinful and unrepentant nation

3. Deeper knowledge of God's will II

- a) Concerning the enemy nations
- b) They will be judged and dealt with