

Text - Jer 20:7-11

Intro. - This chapter of Jeremiah records his arrest and imprisonment (vs. 1-2) by Pashur, Judah's wicked high priest. Jeremiah is whipped & put in stocks overnight. Upon his release the next day, Jeremiah predicts the evil priests doom. (All his friends would be killed & his family taken to Babylon in captivity, never to return) Next, Jeremiah voices his complaints about the whole ordeal...

vs. 7-8, 10, 14-18 - You have deceived me - vs. 7  
I've been made a household joke - vs. 8  
my friends are watching/hoping I fail - vs. 10  
I curse the day I was born - vs. 14-18

Jeremiah had begun his ministry in the 13<sup>th</sup> year of King Josiah, about 60 years after Isaiah's death. Zephaniah and Habakkuk were contemporaries of his in the early days of ministry and Daniel in his later years.

The days of Jeremiah / His nation were days of:  
~ DECEPTION / DECLINE / DERISION / DISCOURAGEMENT

But, he was about to learn a great lesson in life

"Stay in the Word & you will Stay in the Work"

3 Key Movements:

Because of: **Deception**  
**Decline**  
**Derision**  
**Discouragement** } Don't let it  
hand on Jer.  
- on by God know  
how he really  
felt...

① RESIGNATION

He reached a point where he was ready to quit / give up  
"I've had it" - "Never any real change"  
No Results / No Request / No Repentance  
I've had a belly full "More than an Apology"  
I Quit!  
(This was included in the Bible record I might have left it out but God didn't)

② INSPIRATION

"His Word" - not a pat on the back  
not a plague on the staff  
not a paycheck in pocket  
vs. 2, 9, 11, 13  
God's Personal promises - "I" in ch. 1 - I found thee  
I knew thee  
I sanctified thee  
I ordained thee  
I shall say that  
I cannot thee  
I am with thee  
I have put my words in the mouth

God "battled" in at just the right moment to inspire his prophet!  
- WORD - READ / TAUGHT / PREACHED / SANG / SHARED / LIVED.

③ CONTINUATION

~ This is ch. 20 ~ 32 more to go  
~ God was not finished w/ Jeremiah  
~ Jeremiah was not finished w/ God  
~ To stay in the work ~ stay in the word ~  
"What would your Bible say?"

~ Hank Hank ~ In 1967, plane crash, doctors said he would never walk again nor preach again due to his vocal chords / larynx being crushed - BUT!  
- I'll Go On Anyway  
- copy signed by him in my office

It happened 126 years ago. On September 7, 1892, James J. Corbett won the first heavyweight championship prize-fight in which the contestants used boxing gloves. Corbett won the match against John L. Sullivan with a knockout in the twenty-first round. That's right the 21st round!

James J. Corbett also had a way with words. Knowing his background, we can appreciate them even better when he said:

*"Fight one more round.*

*When your feet are so tired that you have to shuffle back to the center of the ring, fight one more round.*

*When your arms are so tired that you can hardly lift your hands to come on guard, fight one more round.*

*When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so tired that you wish your opponent would crack you on the jaw and put you to sleep, fight one more round—remembering that the man who always fights one more round is never whipped."*