

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Is Anything Too Hard for the Lord?

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Genesis 18:13-14

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1685

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) God told Abraham that in his old age he would father a son.
  - i) When Sarah heard this, she laughed.
  - ii) Both Abraham and Sarah were passed the age where it was possible for them to have a child humanly.
- b) Genesis 18:13-14
- c) Is anything too hard for the Lord?
  - i) Can a situation or any matter be too difficult for God?
  - ii) Today's message will deal with that question.

2) THE MAJESTY OF GOD'S LIMITLESS POWER (GENESIS 18:14)

- a) Jeremiah 32:17
  - i) Jeremiah knew that if God made everything, then He can certainly control it all.
- b) Genesis 1:1
  - i) Some people have difficulty believing in miracles; but if we believe Genesis 1:1, then we will have no difficulty with miracles.
- c) If it seems that God has not worked mightily in your situation, it is not because He is unable.
- d) There is no promise too hard for God to fulfill.
  - i) There are over 30,000 promises in the Bible, and every one of them is yes and amen in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - ii) Numbers 23:19
    - (1) The word "repent" in this passage means to say one thing but then change your mind.
    - (2) God cannot lie; if He says He will do it, then He will do it.
  - iii) Titus 1:2
    - (1) It is totally contrary to God's nature to lie; He will not tell a lie.
  - iv) There is no promise that God cannot keep.
- e) There is no prayer too hard for God to answer.
  - i) Jeremiah 33:3
  - ii) Matthew 21:22
    - (1) Anything we can believe God for, we can have.
  - iii) Almighty God is not limited by circumstances.
  - iv) There is nothing that lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God.
- f) There is no problem too big for God to solve.
  - i) Psalm 37:3-5
  - ii) We all experience problems, but we have a God who answers by fire, by power, by grace and by love.
- g) When God solves our problem, He may not solve it in the way we think He ought.
  - i) Sometimes His ways are mysterious, and the solution may be different than we think.

- ii) Isaiah 55:8-9
  - iii) God works differently than we work.
    - (1) God works on a different thought level.
      - (a) God's thoughts are not our thoughts.
    - (2) God works on a different time level.
      - (a) We live in time, and God lives in eternity.
      - (b) We sometimes get anxious and want God to solve our problems now; but with God, timing is far more important than time.
      - (c) He will never be ahead of time, and He will never be late.
    - (3) God works on a different technique level.
      - (a) Many times, we try to tell God exactly how to solve the problem, and God does it sometimes very differently than we would have.
        - (i) When Saul (who would later become the Apostle Paul) was persecuting the early church, it is likely that many Christians were praying and asking God to do something about him.
          - 1. God did do something about Saul: God saved him, and Saul became the mighty Apostle Paul.
          - 2. Acts 8:1-3
          - 3. Acts 9:1-22
        - (ii) When we want God to do something about the evil in the world, we may wonder why He doesn't kill the devil.
          - 1. God doesn't kill the devil; He put His Son on the cross.
        - (iii) When the children of Israel were in the wilderness and being bitten by poisonous serpents, they asked Moses to pray to the Lord that He might take away the snakes.
          - 1. But God had Moses lift up a brazen serpent upon a pole and told the people to look upon it and live.
          - 2. Numbers 21:8
          - 3. God raised up a solution in the midst of that pollution.
  - h) There is no person too hard for God to save.
    - i) Anybody who wants to be saved can be saved.
    - ii) Isaiah 1:18
    - iii) We need to pray for those who are lost.
      - (1) Their hearts may be softened by prayer.
    - iv) There is no man, woman, boy or girl who is too hard for God to save if they will yield to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3) THE MYSTERY OF MAN'S LIMITING POWER
- a) If nothing is too hard for God, if He can solve every problem and if He can save every person, then why doesn't it happen?
    - i) Because men limit God.
  - b) Psalm 78:41
    - i) The word "limited" in this passage means they "horizoned" Him.
      - (1) They simply said that God can go this far and no further.

- c) Matthew 27:1-2
  - i) The chief priests and elders of the people bound Jesus and led Him away.
  - ii) Matthew 26:51-53
    - (1) Some say that there are 12,000 angels in a legion, which according to this Scripture, would equal 144,000 angels that Jesus could have called.
    - (2) It is recorded in Scripture where just one angel slew 185,000 Assyrians in one night.
      - (a) 2 Kings 19:35
  - iii) Jesus was not bound because He was helpless or had no choice in the matter; He allowed Himself to be bound.
    - (1) Jesus could have spoken them into oblivion.
      - (a) John 18:6
- d) We should examine our lives to see if we are limiting the Lord.
  - i) Have you ever chained Deity?
  - ii) Have you ever fettered Jesus?
    - (1) The hands of the Lord Jesus bless and heal, help and minister.
      - (a) If there are any hands that ought not to be tied, those are the hands.
- e) There are five kinds of chains that we use to bind Deity, to limit the Lord Jesus Christ:
  - i) Unwillingness
    - (1) God will not force Himself upon us.
      - (a) Matthew 23:37
    - (2) God wants to give us peace, comfort, hope, security and salvation; but we must be willing.
    - (3) There is nothing too hard for God, but He will allow us to bind and chain Him.
      - (4) 2 Corinthians 6:2
      - (5) Matthew 12:30
        - (a) We cannot be neutral about the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (6) God wants to bless us, but we would not.
  - ii) Unconcern
    - (1) It's not that some are unwilling, but they are just completely indifferent.
      - (2) Revelation 3:20
        - (a) The church of Laodicea was a lukewarm church.
        - (b) Jesus is standing on the outside, knocking on the door.
          - (i) Nothing is too hard for the Lord, but we must open the door.
          - (c) So many people are so concerned and busy with other things that they never even hear the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (3) It is not that He cannot, but He will not if we are unconcerned and will not open the door to Him.
  - iii) Unreasonableness
    - (1) Isaiah 1:18

- (2) God cannot work in some lives because of their unreasonableness, their prejudices and preconceived ideas.
- (3) Many people will not give up their own ideas for God's truth.
  - (a) Some people think that if they became Christians that there would be too much for them to give up.
    - (i) The only thing that God asks us to give up is that which will hurt or harm or condemn us.
    - (ii) Psalm 84:11
  - (b) Because of such unreasonableness, people will not listen.
- iv) Uncleanness
  - (1) Sin in our lives keeps God from blessing us and working with us.
  - (2) Isaiah 59:1-2
  - (3) Unconfessed, unrepented of sin in our lives have kept us from the good things that God wants to give us.
    - (a) We only hurt ourselves.
    - (b) We only limit the Lord.
  - (4) God wants to bless us, but we cannot let go of our sin.
  - (5) We had rather bind the hands that want to comfort, bless, save and heal, than to give up our sin.
- v) Unbelief
  - (1) Unbelief more than anything else limits the Almighty.
    - (a) All sin is terrible, but this sin is devastating.
  - (2) Matthew 13:58
    - (a) The Lord Jesus gives sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf.
    - (b) He makes the lame to leap and turned the water into wine.
    - (c) But in His own hometown, He did not do many mighty works because of their unbelief.
      - (i) God wants to work miracles in our lives if we will believe.
  - (3) Faith is the channel through which the risen Lord pours His life into us, but we can tie His hands by unbelief.
    - (a) Faith is the key that causes the shackles to fall from the hands of the Lord Jesus.

#### 4) CONCLUSION

- a) There is nothing too hard for God.
  - i) We need to see the might and power of His hands.
- b) There is no promise too hard for God to keep.
- c) There is no prayer too hard for Him to answer.
- d) There is no problem too difficult for Him to solve.
- e) His mighty, powerful hands are also loving hands that are reaching out to us.
  - i) Are you chaining and limiting those hands?
- f) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.

- g) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16