

### **GIVING WITH A BOLD HOPE**

Jeremiah 32:1-15 (Pew Bible page 561)

Too often we are unaware of the grip that materialism has on us. The only way out of this cultural slavery is to listen not only to the witness of God's word about ourselves, but especially about himself. Today for most people, including most professing Christians, God is an idea to talk about, or an inference from an argument, or a family tradition to be preserved. But for very few people is God a stark, fearsome, stunning, awesome, shocking present REALITY. So when he asks us to invest ourselves and our resources in something that we cannot take personal possession of, we consider it an impossibility. Rather, our grandest hopes are in something material that we can see, not in the "unseen" promises and purposes of God.

Today Jeremiah proves to be an example of someone who literally bought into God's vision of the future through a bold act of hope. Against the spirit of his age, Jeremiah, invested sacrificially and substantially in God's promises and plans simply because his full confidence was in God.

1. Bold hope is a commitment to the promises and purposes of God even when everything appears contrary.
2. Bold hope is best displayed in sacrificial action.
3. Bold acts of hope grow out of a conviction God is able to do anything.

TAKING IT HOME...