**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **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
   1. God told Abraham that in his old age he would father a son.
      1. When Sarah heard this, she laughed.
      2. Both Abraham and Sarah were passed the age where it was possible for them to have a child humanly.
   2. Genesis 18:13-14
   3. Is anything too hard for the Lord?
      1. Can a situation or any matter be too difficult for God?
      2. Today’s message will deal with that question.
2. THE majesty of God’s limitless power (genesis 18:14)
   1. Jeremiah 32:17
      1. Jeremiah knew that if God made everything, then He can certainly control it all.
   2. Genesis 1:1
      1. Some people have difficulty believing in miracles; but if we believe Genesis 1:1, then we will have no difficulty with miracles.
   3. If it seems that God has not worked mightily in your situation, it is not because He is unable.
   4. There is no promise too hard for God to fulfill.
      1. There are over 30,000 promises in the Bible, and every one of them is yes and amen in the Lord Jesus Christ.
      2. 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.
      3. Titus 1:2
         1. It is totally contrary to God’s nature to lie; He will not tell a lie.
      4. There is no promise that God cannot keep.
   5. There is no prayer too hard for God to answer.
      1. Jeremiah 33:3
      2. Matthew 21:22
         1. Anything we can believe God for, we can have.
      3. Almighty God is not limited by circumstances.
      4. There is nothing that lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God.
   6. There is no problem too big for God to solve.
      1. Psalm 37:3-5
      2. We all experience problems, but we have a God who answers by fire, by power, by grace and by love.
   7. When God solves our problem, He may not solve it in the way we think He ought.
      1. Sometimes His ways are mysterious, and the solution may be different than we think.
      2. Isaiah 55:8-9
      3. God works differently than we work.
         1. God works on a different thought level.
            1. God’s thoughts are not our thoughts.
         2. God works on a different time level.
            1. We live in time, and God lives in eternity.
            2. We sometimes get anxious and want God to solve our problems now; but with God, timing is far more important than time.
            3. He will never be ahead of time, and He will never be late.
         3. God works on a different technique level.
            1. Many times, we try to tell God exactly how to solve the problem, and God does it sometimes very differently than we would have.

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.

God did do something about Saul: God saved him, and Saul became the mighty Apostle Paul.

Acts 8:1-3

Acts 9:1-22

When we want God to do something about the evil in the world, we may wonder why He doesn’t kill the devil.

God doesn’t kill the devil; He put His Son on the cross.

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.

But God had Moses lift up a brazen serpent upon a pole and told the people to look upon it and live.

Numbers 21:8

God raised up a solution in the midst of that pollution.

* 1. There is no person too hard for God to save.
     1. Anybody who wants to be saved can be saved.
     2. Isaiah 1:18
     3. We need to pray for those who are lost.
        1. Their hearts may be softened by prayer.
     4. 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.

1. the mystery of man’s limiting power
   1. 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?
      1. Because men limit God.
   2. Psalm 78:41
      1. The word “limited” in this passage means they “horizoned” Him.
         1. They simply said that God can go this far and no further.
   3. Matthew 27:1-2
      1. The chief priests and elders of the people bound Jesus and led Him away.
      2. 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.
            1. 2 Kings 19:35
      3. 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.
            1. John 18:6
   4. We should examine our lives to see if we are limiting the Lord.
      1. Have you ever chained Deity?
      2. Have you ever fettered Jesus?
         1. The hands of the Lord Jesus bless and heal, help and minister.
            1. If there are any hands that ought not to be tied, those are the hands.
   5. There are five kinds of chains that we use to bind Deity, to limit the Lord Jesus Christ:
      1. Unwillingness
         1. God will not force Himself upon us.
            1. 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
            1. We cannot be neutral about the Lord Jesus Christ.
         6. God wants to bless us, but we would not.
      2. Unconcern
         1. It’s not that some are unwilling, but they are just completely indifferent.
         2. Revelation 3:20
            1. The church of Laodicea was a lukewarm church.
            2. Jesus is standing on the outside, knocking on the door.

Nothing is too hard for the Lord, but we must open the door.

* + - * 1. So many people are so concerned and busy with other things that they never even hear the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      1. It is not that He cannot, but He will not if we are unconcerned and will not open the door to Him.
    1. 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.
          1. Some people think that if they became Christians that there would be too much for them to give up.

The only thing that God asks us to give up is that which will hurt or harm or condemn us.

Psalm 84:11

* + - * 1. Because of such unreasonableness, people will not listen.
    1. 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.
          1. We only hurt ourselves.
          2. 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.
    2. Unbelief
       1. Unbelief more than anything else limits the Almighty.
          1. All sin is terrible, but this sin is devastating.
       2. Matthew 13:58
          1. The Lord Jesus gives sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf.
          2. He makes the lame to leap and turned the water into wine.
          3. But in His own hometown, He did not do many mighty works because of their unbelief.

God wants to work miracles in our lives if we will believe.

* + - 1. Faith is the channel through which the risen Lord pours His life into us, but we can tie His hands by unbelief.
         1. Faith is the key that causes the shackles to fall from the hands of the Lord Jesus.

1. CONCLUSION
   1. There is nothing too hard for God.
      1. We need to see the might and power of His hands.
   2. There is no promise too hard for God to keep.
   3. There is no prayer too hard for Him to answer.
   4. There is no problem too difficult for Him to solve.
   5. His mighty, powerful hands are also loving hands that are reaching out to us.
      1. Are you chaining and limiting those hands?
   6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   7. 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.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16