



A. Rising & Building is our theme.

- it is Biblically based and built into our DNA
- sometimes people need help rising up

B. Jeremiah 38 begins with the prophet announcing:

1. the city will _____ (3)
2. those who remain will _____ (2). It was time to stop fighting and surrender
3. Jeremiah's words were considered _____ (4)
4. Jeremiah is cast into a cistern and he sank in the _____ (6)

They left the prophet to die. No help. No food. Only darkness, mud and defeat

**C. An Unlikely Blessing: An E _____
E _____ (7)**

1. He brings r _____ & r _____

ROPES represent God's _____

Without ropes one can _____ get out of the pit
Jn 8:31-32

- (a) R _____ is more than saying you are sorry. It is a _____ in direction
Children are taught concerning fire: stop, drop and roll
God teaches us concerning sin: stop, _____ and follow

- Luke 13:3; 2 Peter 3:9; Acts 8:18-23
- Repentance begins in the _____ (Rev 2:21) and becomes a change in _____



RAGS represent God's _____

- Luke 15:20
- Rags are necessary because repentance can be _____
- Compassion alone will not pull someone out of the _____

The Balance of Ropes & Rags

- Gal 6:1 Restore (_____) in a spirit of gentleness (_____)
- 2 Tim 2:25 With gentleness (_____) correct (_____)
- 1 Pet 3:15 make a defense (_____) with gentleness (_____)

Rags without ropes will not help a person get out of the _____
Ropes without rags may get the person out, but he will be _____

1. **There is a time for you to _____ ropes & rags** (Jas 5:19-20)
2. **There is a time when you need to let _____ use ropes & rags on _____** (Prov 19:20)

Truth & Compassion: Ropes & Rags. It's not one or the other. It's both. Both in our preaching. Both in our leadership. Both in our homes. Both in our hearts.