

### ATTENTION-

In ancient Rome, crowds by the tens of thousands would gather in the Colosseum to watch as Christians were torn apart by wild animals. Paul Rader, commenting on his visit to this famous landmark, said, "I stood uncovered to the heavens above, where He sits for whom they gladly died, and asked myself, 'Would I, could I, die for Him tonight to get this gospel to the ends of the earth?'" Rader continued, "I prayed most fervently in that Roman arena for the spirit of a martyr, and for the working of the Holy Spirit in my heart, as He worked in Paul's heart when He brought him on his handcuffed way to Rome." Those early Christians "lived on the threshold of heaven, within a heartbeat of home, no possessions to hold them back."

*Our Daily Bread.*

### LESSON-

The messengers of the Lord are often mistreated.

### SCRIPTURE SEARCH- (Utilizing the New International Version)

- 1) What did Jehudi do with the prophet's scroll in Jeremiah 36:23?
- 2) How did the words of the prophet affect the listeners in Jeremiah 36:24?
- 3) How did Jeremiah escape arrest in Jeremiah 36:25-26?
- 4) What happened to the prophet in Jeremiah 37:15?
- 5) How long was Jeremiah in prison in Jeremiah 37:16?
- 6) After this harsh treatment of the prophet, what did the King have the nerve to do in Jeremiah 37:14?

### ILLUSTRATION-

During China's Boxer Rebellion of 1900, insurgents captured a mission station, blocked all the gates but one, and in front of that one gate placed a cross flat on the ground. Then the word was passed to those inside that any who trampled the cross underfoot would be permitted their freedom and life, but that any refusing would be shot. Terribly frightened, the first seven students trampled the cross under their feet and were allowed to go free. But the eighth student, a young girl, refused to commit the sacrilegious act. Kneeling beside the cross in prayer for strength, she arose and moved carefully around the cross, and went out to face the firing squad. Strengthened by her example, every one of the remaining ninety-two students followed her to the firing squad.

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PRAYER-

Lord, please give me the strength to represent You. Amen