Advance Toward The Enemy Wed 12/6/23

2 Kings 7:1-20 NKJV

7 Then Elisha said, “Hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord: ‘Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour *shall be sold* for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.’ ”

2So an officer on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God and said, “Look, *if* the Lord would make windows in heaven, could this thing be?” And he said, “In fact, you shall see *it* with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it.” 3Now there were four leprous men at the entrance of the gate; and they said to one another, “Why are we sitting here until we die?

4If we say, ‘We will enter the city,’ the famine *is* in the city, and we shall die there. And if we sit here, we die also. Now therefore, come, let us surrender to the army of the Syrians. If they keep us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall only die.”

5And they rose at twilight to go to the camp of the Syrians; and when they had come to the outskirts of the Syrian camp, to their surprise no one *was* there.

6For the Lord had caused the army of the Syrians to hear the noise of chariots and the noise of horses—the noise of a great army; so they said to one another, “Look, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of the Egyptians to attack us!”

7Therefore they arose and fled at twilight, and left the camp intact—their tents, their horses, and their donkeys—and they fled for their lives.

8And when these lepers came to the outskirts of the camp, they went into one tent and ate and drank, and carried from it silver and gold and clothing, and went and hid *them;* then they came back and entered another tent, and carried *some* from there *also,* and went and hid *it.*

# 9Then they said to one another, “We are not doing right. This day *is* a day of good news, and we remain silent. If we wait until morning light, some punishment will come upon us. Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king’s household.”

# 10So they went and called to the gatekeepers of the city, and told them, saying, “We went to the Syrian camp, and surprisingly no one *was* there, not a human sound—only horses and donkeys tied, and the tents intact.”

# 11And the gatekeepers called out, and they told *it* to the king’s household inside.

# 12So the king arose in the night and said to his servants, “Let me now tell you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we *are* hungry; therefore they have gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, ‘When they come out of the city, we shall catch them alive, and get into the city.’ ”13And one of his servants answered and said, “Please, let several *men* take five of the remaining horses which are left in the city. Look, they *may either become* like all the multitude of Israel that are left in it; or indeed, *I say,* they *may become* like all the multitude of Israel left from those who are consumed; so let us send them and see.”

# 14Therefore they took two chariots with horses; and the king sent them in the direction of the Syrian army, saying, “Go and see.”

# 15And they went after them to the Jordan; and indeed all the road *was* full of garments and weapons which the Syrians had thrown away in their haste. So the messengers returned and told the king.

# 16Then the people went out and plundered the tents of the Syrians. So a seah of fine flour was *sold* for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the Lord.

# 17Now the king had appointed the officer on whose hand he leaned to have charge of the gate. But the people trampled him in the gate, and he died, just as the man of God had said, who spoke when the king came down to him.

# 18So it happened just as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, “Two seahs of barley for a shekel, and a seah of fine flour for a shekel, shall be *sold* tomorrow about this time in the gate of Samaria.”

# 19Then that officer had answered the man of God, and said, “Now look, *if* the Lord would make windows in heaven, could such a thing be?”And he had said, “In fact, you shall see *it* with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it.”

# 20And so it happened to him, for the people trampled him in the gate, and he died.

 *Why just sit here? Advance toward the enemy. When times look hard – he always flees!*

2 Kings 7:12 NKJV

12So the king arose in the night and said to his servants, “Let me now tell you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we *are* hungry; therefore they have gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, ‘When they come out of the city, we shall catch them alive, and get into the city.’ ”

 *They could not figure out what God could do, would do, or had done. Give to God (His servants) if it’s your last cent.*

# 1 Kings 17:8-16 NKJV

# 8Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

# 9“Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”

# 10So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow *was* there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.”

# 11And as she was going to get *it,* he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”

# 12So she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I *am* gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”

# 13And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go *and* do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring *it* to me; and afterward make *some* for yourself and your son.

# 14For thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.’ ”

# 15So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for *many* days.

# 16The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah.

#  *Elijah did not ask for that cake to keep himself from starving, but to obligate God to her. He motivated her with the word of God’s promise not his great need. Jesus is just as ready to ask all of a poor widow as He is a rich young ruler. The end result is the same, the flowing of God’s abundance. The gospel of the Kingdom will make it when everything else fails.*

# Matthew 24:3-14 NKJV

# 3Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

# 4And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you.

# 5For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.

#  6And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

# 7For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

# 8All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.

# 9“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake.

# 10And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

# 11Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

# 12And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

# 13But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

# 14And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

#  *Those that go forward in times of trouble are the ones who become masters both spiritually and in the natural realm. Big long lasting changes come during bad times- not during good. The lepers could have controlled the whole nation if they had not tried to hoard up for themselves. God was moving to deliever, they could have been healed.*

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