

## No Limits

I spoke with you a couple of weeks ago about the Syrian siege of the capital of Israel, the city of Samaria. The economy was wrecked, and the food supply situation was critical. Supplies were so short that the Bible records in

{2 Ki 6:25 NCV) There was a shortage of food in Samaria. It was so bad that a donkey's head sold for about two pounds of silver, \$468.16 and half of a pint of dove's dung sold for about two ounces of silver. \$29.26

Elisha, the prophet of God, told the king that the economy of Samaria would change overnight. God caused the Syrian army to flee in the darkness, leaving behind all their possessions. The result was exactly as the prophet predicted, and everyone was blessed except for one man

{2 Ki 7:1-2 NCV) Elisha said, "Listen to the Lord's word. This is what the Lord says: 'About this time tomorrow seven quarts of fine flour will be sold for two-fifths of an ounce of silver, \$5.85 and thirteen quarts of barley will be sold for two-fifths of an ounce of silver \$5.85 This will happen at the gate of Samaria.' " 2 Then the officer who was close to the king answered Elisha, "Even if the Lord opened windows in the sky, that couldn't happen." Elisha said, "You will see it with your eyes, but you will not eat any of it."

- This man refused to believe the Word of the Lord, which resulted in his death

{2 Ki 7:17-18 NCV) The king chose the officer who was close to him to guard the gate, but the people trampled the officer to death. This happened just as Elisha had told the king when the king came to his house.18 He had said, "Thirteen quarts of barley and seven quarts of fine flour will each sell for two-fifths of an ounce of silver about this time tomorrow at the gate of Samaria."

- There were some other players in this drama that we will look at today

2 Kings 7:3-4 (KJV) And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?<sup>4</sup> If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.

- These men were in a desperate situation
- As lepers they could be stoned for being out in public
- If they went into the city they would be stoned or starve, possibly even starved and then stoned
- If they went to the camp of the enemy, they could be killed
- Death was all around them: the choice was to shelter in place and die, or face their fear of death at the hands of the enemy
- A choice had to be made
- God caused the army of Syria to flee in terror

2 Kings 7:7-9 (KJV) Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their life.<sup>8</sup> And when these lepers came to the uttermost part of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it.<sup>9</sup> Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

- These men who were bold enough to face death became rich overnight
- They did not keep the blessing to themselves
- Their faith change the economy of their nation
- We have a responsibility as people of faith to help restore the economy of our nation
- We must overcome fear of the virus and begin to openly live our faith
- We must encourage others to do the same
- The church must stand up in the midst of our nation and set the example of faith
- We must get out of our homes, get back to work, and begin to enjoy life again
- We must overcome fear and put our trust in God
- We must not limit God

**]Psalm 78:41-42 (KJV) Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.**

**42 They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.**

- **Limited – tavah, to grieve, to limit**
- **They limited God because they turned back in their hearts to the flesh**
- **Egypt always represents the flesh**
- **We had garlic and onions there**

**Acts 7:39 (KJV) To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust him from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt,**

- **They turned from faith in God to faith in the flesh**
- **Many in our nation, even in the church, have done the same thing**
- **We have trusted in government to protect us, we have trusted doctors to protect us, we have trusted unelected bureaucrats**

**Psalm 118:8-9 (KJV) It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. 9 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.**

**Psalm 115:11(NCV) You who respect the Lord should trust him; he is your helper and your protection.**

- **God protects us from viruses and all diseases if we put our trust in Him**
- **Nothing is too difficult for God**

**Jeremiah 32:17 (KJV) Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:**

- **The same power that created the earth and sky and everything in them lives in us!**

**Romans 8:11(KJV) But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**

**Ephesians 3:14-16 (NLT)When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father,[a] 15 the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth.[b] 16 I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.**

- **There are no limits to the power of God that lives in us**
- **There are no limits to protection from sickness available to us**
- **There are no limits to what we can accomplish with Faith in God**
- **NO LIMITS!**