

**IN YOUR DESPERATION....**

**GOD WILL GIVE YOU CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION**

**Elder: Chadwick Sadaphal**

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**In our world today,  
there are so many people suffering**

**→ feeling hopeless**

**→ feeling helpless**

**The lesson we see today will show  
God's awesome power at a time  
when things were at there worst**

## **2 Kings 6:24 King James Version**

**24** And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

**There was a war happening between  
Syria and Samaria at this time**

**→ the Syrian army had setup a  
blockade**

**→ no supplies in or out**

**WHAT WERE THE EFFECTS OF THE BLOCKADE?**

## **2 Kings 6:25 King James Version**

**25** And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver.

**1ST EFFECT: FAMINE, STARVATION AND GREED**

**This is how severe the famine was:**

**People were buying animal feces for  
silver and eating it!!!!**

**CAN YOU PICTURE THAT KIND OF DESPERATION?**

## **2 Kings 6:25-26 King James Version**

**25** And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

**26** And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, O king.

**The king of Israel meets a woman asking for help**

- His response shows his helplessness of the situation**
- the king couldn't make her food, or help himself**

## **2 Kings 6:27-30 King James Version**

**27** And he said, If the Lord do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?

**28** And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow.

**29** So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may eat him: and she hath hid her son.

**30** And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth within upon his flesh.

**2ND EFFECT: MURDER AND CANNIBALISM**

**The king eases up on his previous response, and asks the woman how can he help**

**→she confesses her and another woman had agreed to kill and eat their sons**

**→she did it first, but the other woman did not and was now hiding**

**The king tears his clothes as a common OT sign of grief and anguish**

**→ the sackcloth underneath his clothes indicates his sorrow**

## **2 Kings 6:31 King James Version**

**31** Then he said, God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on him this day.

**3RD EFFECT: BLAMING GOD AND  
HIS PROPHETS/MESSENGERS**

**The king of Israel swore to execute Elisha that day**

**→ he was unaware that Elisha already was having a meeting with the elders to discuss the situation**

## **2 Kings 6:32 King James Version**

**32** But Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and the king sent a man from before him: but ere the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, See ye how this son of a murderer hath sent to take away mine head? look, when the messenger cometh, shut the door, and hold him fast at the door: is not the sound of his master's feet behind him?

## The king sends an assassin to kill Elisha

- God has given Elisha knowledge of the plot
- He tells the elders to hold the man at the door when he arrives because the king will enter right after him

**THE PERSON GOD USES  
AND  
CHOOSES IS PROTECTED!!!**

## **2 Kings 6:33 King James Version**

**33** And while he yet talked with them, behold, the messenger came down unto him: and he said, Behold, this evil is of the Lord; what should I wait for the Lord any longer??

**4TH EFFECT: HOPELESSNESS**

**The king asks Elisha, why  
shouldn't he just surrender?**

## **Job 17:15 King James Version**

**15 And where is now my hope? as for my hope,  
who shall see it?**

## **Job 7:15 King James Version**

**15 So that my soul chooseth strangling, and death rather than my life.**

## **Ecclesiastes 4:1 King James Version**

**4** So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter.

**WHEN ALL SEEMS LOST, THAT IS WHEN  
GOD SHINES THE BRIGHTEST!!!**

## **2 Kings 7:1-2 King James Version**

**1** Then Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the Lord; Thus saith the Lord, To morrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria. **2** Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

## Elisha shares the Word of God

→tomorrow the blockade would end and the food will be plentiful

→the king's chief official mocks Elisha and God by his response, thinking a little can't be turned into a lot

**HOW MANY PEOPLE FEEL THIS WAY TODAY??**

**Elisha tells him he will see it  
but won't be a participant**

**Elisha tells him he will see it  
but won't be a participant**

## **Psalm 37:3 King James Version**

**3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.**

## **Jeremiah 17:7 King James Version**

**7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.**

## **Isaiah 50:10 King James Version**

**10** Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God.

**ONCE AGAIN, WE ARE ABOUT TO MEET THE  
UNNAMED, UNSUNG HEROES OF OUR STORY!!!!**

## **2 Kings 7:3-4 King James Version**

**3** 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?

**4** 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.

**Four lepers, living outside the city as per OT law, are the first to discover that the blockade has ended**

**→desperate and out of options, they decide to beg with the Syrians for their lives**

**→they felt it was better to be executed by the enemy than starve to death**

## **2 Kings 7:5-7 King James Version**

**5 And they rose up in the twilight, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, there was no man there.**

**6 For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host:**

**and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us.**

**7 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.**

**At nightfall, the lepers make their way to the  
Syrian camp**

**→ when they arrive, they find no one there but  
all the food and supplies remain**

**GOD HAD CONFUSED THE ENEMY INTO  
THINKING FOREIGN ARMIES**

**WERE ABOUT TO ATTACK THEM IN SECRET!!**

**THE ENEMIES YOU SEE TODAY.....  
YOU WILL SEE NO MORE!!!!**

## **2 Kings 7:8 King James Version**

**8 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.**

**The lepers rush into the camp, and eat and drink  
and take treasures to their hearts content**

**→Who wouldn't?**

**→These men, like the rest of Samaria, had been  
thirsting and starving to death**

**→Who can blame them for taking everything in  
sight?**

**BUT IS THIS HOW THEIR STORY ENDS?**

**NO!!!**

**IN THEIR DESPERATION, GOD GIVES THEM  
CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION!!!**

## **2 Kings 7:9 King James Version**

**9 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.it.**

**The changed hearts of the lepers and decision to share the good news of their discovery**

**→ their heroic nature emerges**

**→ admitted their selfishness and greed**

**“if we tarry till the morning...”**

**→ note their decision not to wait to spread the news**

**ITS OUR JOB TO SPREAD  
GOD'S DELIVERANCE TO EVERYONE!!!**

## **2 Timothy 4:18 King James Version**

**18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Psalm 40:17 King James Version**

**17 But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.**

## **Isaiah 43:1-2 King James Version**

**1 But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.**

**2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.**

## **2 Kings 7:10-11 King James Version**

**10 So they came and called unto the porter of the city: and they told them, saying, We came to the camp of the Syrians, and, behold, there was no man there, neither voice of man, but horses tied, and asses tied, and the tents as they were.**

**11 And he called the porters; and they told it to the king's house within.**

**Not waiting around, the lepers tell the good news to the gatekeepers of the city**

**WATCH THE FLOW OF GOOD NEWS BEING SPREAD**

- Lepers to gatekeepers**
- Gatekeepers to people and officials**
- Officials to the king**

**STARVING PEOPLE NEED TO BE FED  
WITH GOD'S WORD!!!**

## **2 Kings 7:12-13 King James Version**

**12 And the king arose in the night, and said unto his servants, I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we be hungry; therefore are they 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.**

**13 And one of his servants answered and said, Let some take, I pray thee, five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city, (behold, they are as all the multitude of Israel that are left in it: behold, I say, they are even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are consumed:) and let us send and see.**

**The king doubts the good news, suspecting it's a  
Syrian plot to lure the people out of the  
city to kill them**

**→he agrees to a plan where spies go out to the  
Syrian camp and verify the report**

## **2 Kings 7:14-16 King James Version**

**14 They took therefore two chariot horses; and the king sent after the host of the Syrians, saying, Go and see.**

**15 And they went after them unto Jordan: and, lo, all the way was full of garments and vessels, which the Syrians had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told the king.**

**16 And the people went out, and spoiled the tents of the Syrians. So a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the Lord.**

**The spies report verifies everything that the lepers had said**

**→ Verse 16 confirms the prophetic words of Elisha prophesied earlier**

## **2 Kings 7:17-20 King James Version**

**17 And the king appointed the lord on whose hand he leaned to have the charge of the gate: and the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died, as the man of God had said, who spake when the king came down to him.**

**18 And it came to pass as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be to morrow about this time in the gate of Samaria:**

**19 And that lord answered the man of God, and said, Now, behold, if the Lord should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.**

**20 And so it fell out unto him: for the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died.**

**THAT OFFICIAL WHO RIDICULED ELISHA AND GOD  
EARLIER IN THE STORY?**

**HE DIED JUST AS ELISHA PROPHECIED HE WOULD**

**GOD WILL NOT BE MOCKED!!!!**

## **2 Kings 7:18-20 King James Version**

**18 And it came to pass as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be to morrow about this time in the gate of Samaria:**

**19 And that lord answered the man of God, and said, Now, behold, if the Lord should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.**

**20 And so it fell out unto him: for the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died.**

## **2 Timothy 2:2 King James Version**

**2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.**

## **Titus 2:15 King James Version**

**15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.**

## **Malachi 3:16 King James Version**

**16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.**

**IN YOUR DESPERATION,  
GOD WILL GIVE YOU CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION!!**

**THE SAMARITANS WERE STARVING TO DEATH,  
AND HAD NO HOPE IN SIGHT**

**THE ATROCITIES AND CRIMES BEING  
COMMITTED WERE BEYOND HORRIBLE**

**DOES THIS NOT SOUND LIKE SO MANY PLACES  
AROUND THE WORLD TODAY??**

**FEAR NOT, GOD IS SENDING A MIRACLE TO EASE  
YOUR SUFFERING!!!**

**HE WILL USE UNLIKELY, UNSUNG HEROES TO  
SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!!!**

**THE LEPERS CAST ASIDE THEIR DESPERATION,  
ADMITTED THEIR GUILT AND  
HAD TO TELL THE WORLD!!!**

**LET THEM BE AN EXAMPLE TO US TODAY,  
SO WE CAN TELL EVERYONE ABOUT  
THE GOODNESS OF GOD!!!!**

A person is standing in the center of a church, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or celebration. They are silhouetted against a bright, glowing light source, likely a large window or a stage light, which creates a strong backlight effect. The person is wearing a dark, long-sleeved garment. The background shows the interior of a church with a high ceiling and some architectural details like columns and a balcony. The overall atmosphere is one of spiritual joy and worship.

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