

FAMINES IN THE LAST DAYS, AND LESSONS FROM ELISHA. 2 KINGS

Preparing For The Future part VIII

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WEEKLY
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FOCUS

LESSONS FROM THE AMAZING BALD HEADED PROPHET ELISHA!

SO WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOUR FOOD SUPPLIES ARE BEING CUT OFF?

Matthew 24:7

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

It is our belief at the WCF www.weeklychristianfocus.org that famines are going to happen more and more going forward in ALL parts of the globe! **Many will be brought on by deliberate political policies and sabotage as well as deliberately burning (arson) of warehouses supplying all kinds of key foods, like meat, chicken and staples, as has already been going on in an industrial scale over the last two years in the States.**

We in the western world have for the most part been almost oblivious to this threat of famine;

having had so much trade and commerce around the world and the wonderful blessings of the Lord for so many centuries!

But the time is ALMOST OVER DEAR BRETHREN FOR THAT AND WE ARE IN THE SAME BOAT AS OUR WONDERFUL AFRICAN AND ASIAN AND OTHER BRETHREN GLOBALLY! Praise the Lord. Let us rejoice in that at least.

A faith building chapter in the

Old testament about famine is 2 Kings 6 verses 24 to end plus all of Chapter 7

Here we find the Syrians who regularly invaded parts of Israel and stole their crops and husbandry. They have started a siege of Samaria the capital city of Samaria province. No food is coming in and certainly nothing is coming in to the population. We find the prophet Elisha apparently residing here at this time.

Let's look at the whole thing and, at the end, talk about what we can carry away from this regarding God's supply during Famine for HIS children.

I am using the New King James Version (NKJV) today.



Syria Besieges Samaria in Famine

2 kings 6:

24 And it happened after this that Ben-Hadad king of

Syria gathered all his army, and went up and besieged Samaria. 25 And there was a great famine in Samaria; and indeed they besieged it until a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and one-fourth of a kab of dove droppings for five shekels of silver.

26 Then, as the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried out to him, saying, "Help, my lord, O king!"

27 And he said, "If the LORD does not help you, where can I find help for you? From the threshing floor or from the winepress?" 28 Then the king said to her, "What is troubling you?"

And she answered, "This woman said to me, 'Give your son, that we may eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow.' 29 So we boiled my son, and ate him. And I said to her on the next day, 'Give your son, that we

may eat him'; but she has hidden her son."

30 Now it happened, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he tore his clothes; and as he passed by on the wall, the people looked, and there underneath he had sackcloth on his body. 31 Then he said, "God do so to me and more also, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat remains on him today!"

32 But Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. And the king sent a man ahead of him, but before the messenger came to him, he (Elisha) said to the elders, "Do you see how this son of a murderer has sent someone to take away my head? Look, when the messenger comes, shut the door, and hold him fast at the door. Is not the sound of his master's feet behind him?" 33 And while he was still talking with them, there was the messenger, coming down to him; and then the king said, "Surely this calamity is from the LORD; why should I wait for the LORD any longer?"

Very gruesome events that finally got the King so MAD, and where did he direct his anger to? None other than to old baldy Elisha, God's prophet, for some reason.. 'His head wont be on his neck by tonight' swore the king. Any form of food was at a premium. An old donkey's head cost a fortune and small portions of bird poo was also at a high price. Can you imagine this happening where you live?

Elisha had the gift of knowing what everyone was thinking and what they were going to do. As far as I can see in the Bible, the only other person to manifest this gift was Jesus Christ. A very handy and enormously powerful spiritual gift to have, and you can

see an example again with Elisha in this section of scripture:

(2 Kings 6:8-12)

so, Elisha knew the king had sent the messenger and was also coming. He told his elders and the young men what to do.

Let's move on to Chapter 7:

7 1 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.' "

2 So 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."

Elisha prophesied the price of important foods would return to normal or even cheaper! After months and months of almost no food, people eating their children, food salvation or food security was coming back! Praise the Lord!

Elisha also told the king's official who doubted the prophecy, that he would see the miracle, but not eat it himself, how mysterious was that!



The Syrians Flee

3 Now 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? 4 If 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."

5 And 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. **6 For 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!"** 7 Therefore they arose and fled at twilight, and left the camp intact—their tents, their horses, and their donkeys—and they fled for their lives. 8 And 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.

9 Then 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." 10 So 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." 11 And the

gatekeepers called out, and they told it to the king's household inside.

12 So 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.' "

13 And 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."

14 Therefore they took two chariots with horses; and the king sent them in the direction of the Syrian army, saying, "Go and see." 15 And 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. 16 Then 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.

17 Now 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. 18 So 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."

19 Then 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."

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

And that is the end of that particular story and also illustrates the importance of avoiding large crowds as we recently wrote about!

This famine was solved by the Word of God and by a prophet speaking it. Apparently, the Lord had decided that the famine should end as it had practically starved the population and wreaked a great deal of pain and havoc. **The Syrians fled away, possibly some of them 'still in their pyjamas', as my son likes to say!**

More interesting information

In the Bible, there seem to be 87 appearances of the Word famine.

Joseph interpreted that terrible dream of the Pharaoh, and averted the famine through the Wisdom of God, by advising the king to set aside one fifth of their harvests for the next seven years, which they were able to do. We discussed this in the WCF called 'Joseph the Meticulous'; some of his granaries are still visible today in Egypt along with a few seeds of wheat and corn here and there!

[\(1115\) joseph grain storage egypt - YouTube](#)

When famine comes, people in the Bible often moved, like Abraham had to do and others.

So there is no fixed advice in

the Bible about what is/was the best form of action when faced with a famine. Most importantly, proactively pray against them coming to you. Both man made new world order famines and 'natural' famines. God is able to keep you and bring you through it somehow, just as He did here in the main story with Elisha. I love any story where we see a real miracle and in this story we see a clever blend in the Word of God, between the Prophet's message and the circumstances of the lepers and how God fulfilled the prophecy through them!

The greatest famine of course is spiritual as we see in Dear Amos' message:



Amos 3:

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:

Until next week, God willing!

Jerry for the WCF Team



WHO ARE KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH
FAITH UNTO SALVATION READY TO BE REVEALED IN
THE LAST TIME..

1PETER 1:5



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