

## Day of Good News

2 Kings 7:1-11; 16-17

### A. The Siege of Samaria

1. Over time there have been more days of war than of peace.
2. In the past few centuries there has been a war somewhere in the world.
3. This passage shows God's power to deliver & the importance of faith.
4. It demonstrates His ability to turn hopeless situations into miraculous victories.
5. Context of the passage is Samaria under siege by Ben-Hadad, king of Aram.
6. This led to a devastating famine (2 Kings 6:24-33), causing a hopeless situation.
7. The famine was so severe that people resorted to unthinkable acts to survive.
8. People were killing & eating their children to survive.
9. The king had no answers, and hope seemed lost.
10. The king blamed God (2 Kings 6:33) & wanted to kill Elisha (2 Kings 6:31).

### B. Elisha's Surprising Prophecy (v. 1)

1. Amid this famine, Elisha proclaimed a promise of deliverance (2 Kings 7:1-2)
2. Elisha declared the word of the Lord: *"Tomorrow... food will be plentiful."*
3. The officer escorting the king doubted the truth of Elisha's words. (2 Kings 7:2)
4. The passage teaches us the danger of unbelief in God's promises.
5. No situation is too desperate for God.
6. Human reasoning often cannot grasp God's supernatural provision.
7. Unbelief shuts the door to God's blessing.
8. Trust in God's Word, even when circumstances seem impossible.
9. Faith requires believing in God's promises, even when they defy logic.
10. Doubt can blind us to God's power and lead to missed blessings.

### C. Missionary Lessons from Four Lepers

1. The 4 lepers, outcasts from the city & society, became unexpected messengers.
2. They lived on generosity of passer-byes. No handouts for them in this situation.
3. One leper wisely analysed the situation
4. A question of survival: *Why should we sit here and die?* (v. 3)
5. Similar to God's cry to sinners: (Ezek. 18:31)
6. They needed to do nothing else to die but wait.
  - a. The same as it is with every sinner (John 3:18, 36)
  - b. We don't need to commit any more sin to go to hell, indecision is a state of death.
7. Apart from God's intervention, death awaited them - if they moved or stayed.
8. Lost people face death if they stay in unbelief.
9. Their responses to the crisis are lessons for us all. *"Why stay here until we die?"*
9. The lepers decide to take some action, but faced risk, but possible life.
10. We all need to surrender to Christ
  - a. The risk: our eternal destination.
  - b. The hope: eternal life.
  - c. The promise of surrender to Him will save your life.

#### D. The Overwhelming Provision

1. God works in unexpected ways to bring deliverance.
2. God can use even the most unlikely people or circumstances to fulfill His plans.
3. God often uses unlikely people to bring His message of hope.
4. Faith involves moving forward, even when options seem limited.
5. The leper's step of faith led them to discover the enemy's camp was abandoned.
6. They were surprised to see the enemy had been defeated.
7. The lepers found life – food & riches - silver, & gold.
8. They first ate their fill, took treasure but then realized:
9. *“This is a day of good news; we cannot keep it to ourselves.”*
10. They probably questioned why they should tell anyone.
11. When we experience God's grace, we are called to share it with others.
12. The lepers returned to the city to share the good tidings.
13. God can turn lack into abundance in an instant.
14. Eventually everyone in the city rushed out to plunder the camp.
15. Due to the abundance, God turned famine into feasting overnight.
16. The officer saw the miracle but didn't share in it, fulfilling Elisha's prophecy.
17. Faith opens the door to experience His promises; unbelief misses out.
18. Blessings are meant to be shared, not hoarded.
19. Share the good news of God's provision and salvation with others.
20. We see the fulfillment of God's Word (2 Kings 7:16-20)
21. God's Word never fails; His promises are always fulfilled.
22. Trust in God's timing and faithfulness, even when it seems delayed.

#### E. This Is also a Day of Good Tidings

1. Salvation has been provided & eternal life is offered to all to trust in Jesus
2. Humanity, like Samaria, faces hopelessness without God.
3. Jesus Christ has won the victory and provided life abundant.
4. We, like the lepers, must not keep the good news to ourselves.
5. Sharing the gospel brings others from death to life.
6. God uses ordinary people to carry extraordinary news.
7. We are called to trust His promises and share His abundance with the world.
8. *“This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves...”* (2 Kings 7:9).
9. God is faithful to His promises, and His power is unmatched.
10. Trust Him in every situation, and share His blessings with others.
11. Commit to sharing His goodness with those around you.