

The Steps of a Leper – Preparing for a Great Move of the Holy Spirit

October 31st, 2020 | www.mediaatvictory.com

Some things we can pray to change. Some things we need to be led by God to pray how to bring life and help into the middle of a great crisis. The Bible says to pray for those in authority so that we can live a quiet and peaceable life with all Godliness and honesty, so that the Gospel can be preached freely. There is a heaven and a hell on the other side of this life and the only hope of this world is Jesus. We must walk with God to rescue the people trapped in the fire.

- Elisha the prophet revealed the plans of the king of Syria to the king of Israel.
- The king of Syria sent an army to capture Elisha.
- Elisha prayed that the Lord struck them with blindness and led them to be captured.
- In an act of kindness Elisha had a feast with them and released them.
- In response to Elisha's kindness the king of Syria sent his army to lay siege to their city.

II Kings 6:24-25 - Later on, however, King Ben-hadad of Syria mustered his entire army and besieged Samaria. As a result there was a great famine in the city, and after a long while even a donkey's head sold for fifty dollars and a pint of dove's dung brought three dollars!

The Steps of 4 Lepers

II Kings 7:3-8 - Now there were four lepers sitting outside the city gates. "Why do we sit here until we die?" they asked each other. "We will starve if we stay here and we will starve if we go back into the city; so we might as well go out and surrender to the Syrian army. If they let us live, so much the better; but if they kill us, we would have died anyway." So that evening they went out to the camp of the Syrians, but there was no one there! (For the Lord had made the whole Syrian army hear the clatter of speeding chariots and a loud galloping of horses and the sounds of a great army approaching. "The king of Israel has hired the Hittites and Egyptians to attack us," they cried out. So they panicked and fled into the night, abandoning their tents, horses, donkeys, and everything else.) When the lepers arrived at the edge of the camp they went into one tent after another, eating, drinking wine, and carrying out silver and gold and clothing and hiding it.

- The lepers took natural steps to move towards a provision in conjunction with something that God was about to do.

- Every step they took was amplified by God Himself.
- The enemy heard a great army when in fact what was coming were four lepers.

In walking with God by faith through difficult times, every step you take in obedience will feel like the step of a leper. It will feel insignificant and anything but strong. It will feel like impossibility. That's why every Christian is called to walk by faith and not by sight. (2 Corinthians 5:7)

II Kings 7:16 - and the people of Samaria rushed out and plundered the camp of the Syrians. So it was true that two gallons of flour and four gallons of barley were sold that day for one dollar, just as the Lord had said!

Three Responses of the Early Church to Persecution and Crisis.

- You will respond in one of these three manors.
- Only one of them will bring you to where God has called you to be.

1.) The white flag of fear.

- Persecution of the church caused many to abandon their faith and turn away from Christ.
- Fear squeezes you to fit the mold of a culture.
- Fear changes uniforms and hopes to blend in.
- Fear rewards your surrender with destruction. (John 10:10)
- **We are called to be an occupying force until Jesus comes.**

II Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind.

2.) The counterfeit of a spirit of faith – anger and rage.

- You don't solve injustice with another injustice.
- In today's world as a Christian love from God's people is a must for every person who opposes God, and they ultimately oppose themselves.
- People are not our enemies, we are called to love people.
- **We are called to live in truth and in grace.**

James 1:20 - Man's anger and wrath does not achieve or produce God's righteous purpose.

3.) Walk in a spirit of faith and be kingdom builder.

- Help the Saul's of this world become Pauls's.
- Stephen was martyred for the church.
- Kingdom builders walk in a spirit of faith and are not governed by fear.
- **Don't be dictated to by the circumstances around you.**

II Timothy 3:12 - Yes, and all who choose to live Godly lives, in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

We should build an expectation that if we're going to serve God, He's going to ask us for things. He's going to ask us for obedience.

The way people know that we follow God is our love one for another.