

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Kings Chapters 6-7!

3/23-24/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!
MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York). Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).
TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using ([waze.com/live map](http://waze.com/live-map)) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

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OPENING PRAYER

Review: 2 KINGS — Chapter 4 – Elisha and the Widow’s Oil; Elisha Raises the Shunammite’s Son; Elisha Purifies the Pot of Stew; Elisha Feeds One Hundred Men. Chapter 5 – Naaman’s Leprosy Cleansed; Gehazi’s Greed.

THIS WEEK: 2 KINGS – Chapter 6 – The Floating Ax Head – (vs. 1-7); The Blinded Syrians Captured – (vs. 8-23); Syria Besieges Samaria in Famine – (vs. 27 - Chapter 7:2); The Syrians Flee – (vs. 3-20).

The Ax Head Recovered

2Ki 6:1 And the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "See now, the place where we dwell with you is too small for us.

- **These were the sons of prophets** from the prophet school near Jericho. They have a problem. Their dormitories and their meeting places were too small. So that is a good problem, which speaks of the effectiveness of Elisha's ministry.

2Ki 6:2-3 Please, let us go to the Jordan, and let every man take a beam from there, and let us make there a place where we may dwell." So he answered, "Go." [3] Then one said, "Please consent to go with your servants." And he answered, "I will go."

- **They liked Elisha and being around him.** Elisha answered, "I will go! Notice that these theology students were not afraid to get their hands dirty. It is great training that is going on.

2Ki 6:4-5 *So he went with them. And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. [5] But as one was cutting down a tree, the iron ax head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, "Alas, master! For it was borrowed."*

- As he was cutting away at the tree, the ax head fell into the water. He came to Elisha and said, "Oh man, I am in trouble! I had borrowed that ax head from another person. How am I going to explain how I lost it?"

2Ki 6:6 *So the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" And he showed him the place. So he cut off a stick, and threw it in there; and he made the iron float.*

- **Elisha was a man of divine humility and compassion.** He went with the sons of the prophets to the woods, when they asked to go. No man should think himself too great to stoop to do good, but to be tender to all. Elisha was a man of great power, God working through him makes iron to swim! It was a miracle of God! There is a tremendous spiritual message here for us today. Man today is like that ax head. He has slipped off the handle. He has fallen. He is totally depraved.

2Ki 6:7 *Therefore he said, "Pick it up for yourself." So he reached out his hand and took it.*

- **This miracle does not shake my theology at all, but rather confirms** the fact that God can do anything. He is interested in the smallest detail of your life.
- **Here we have a beautiful picture of the supernatural nature of God.** Nothing is too small to bring to God and ask for a miracle of His intervention. It is a beautiful picture of retrieval in the Scriptures. All you have to do is reach out the hand of faith today and take it, for He died for you.
- **In (1Pe 2:24) who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.** This beautiful picture of the miraculous retrieval of sinful man. The cross of Jesus Christ thrown into the streams of the human condition in human history, in order that the miracle of retrieval of our lost lives could occur! All of it is a picture of God, a shadow of the greater thing that God has done for us in retrieving us. We were hopelessly lost. The cross got added to human history so that people like you and me could be retrieved and saved! We thankfully praise Him!
- **By His grace, all you have to do is reach out the hand of faith today and take it**, for He died for you. He rose again in order that He might lift you up. All you have to do from your position is to reach out the hand of faith and trust Him.

Horses and Chariots of Fire

2Ki 6:8 *Now the king of Syria was making war against Israel; and he consulted with his servants, saying, "My camp will be in such and such a place."*

- Syria was not interested in a full military invasion of Israel at that time. They were engaging in border skirmishes, setting up camps on the border, and staging centers for military action. The king and his advisors would make plans for their camp to be set up in a secret place.

2Ki 6:9 *And the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are coming down there."*

- Elisha was supernaturally receiving intelligence from the **LORD** related to Syria's military actions. He would then inform the king of Israel, telling them not to go there.

2Ki 6:10-11 *Then the king of Israel sent someone to the place of which the man of God had told him. Thus he warned him, and he was watchful there, not just once or twice (several times). [11] Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was greatly troubled by this thing; and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel?"*

- It is impossible that the king of Israel can know our plans, unless one of you is spying for him.

2Ki 6:12 *And one of his servants said, "None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom."*

- That fellow Elisha knows everything you talk about. Even what you say to your wife when you go to bed at night. I mean you cannot hide anything from him. He has supernatural ability to expose your plans.

2Ki 6:13-14 *So he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and get him." And it was told him, saying, "Surely he is in Dothan." [14] Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.*

- He sent the chariots (the tanks), the cavalry units, horses, and infantry to capture Elisha.

2Ki 6:15 *And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"*

- Alas, Elisha, we have had it man! They have surrounded us!

2Ki 6:16-17 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." [17] And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see (a wonderful prayer!)." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire (Elijah had been taken into heaven by just one of these) all around Elisha.

- Unfortunately, living in this material world, we get so involved in the physical, material things that we lose sight of the spiritual. We get so concerned about the opposition that is facing us, thinking that there is no way we can withstand them because of being overly involved in the physical aspects of this battle. (1Jn 4:4) *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.*
- **May God open up our eyes, that we might see the spiritual.** When the eyes of the servant were open, he saw that the angels of the LORD were surrounding the Syrians, the horses and chariots of fire surrounding the Syrian army. What a difference it made in his whole outlook. That power which was engaged for Elisha's protection could both terrify and consume the enemy! When God opens your eyes, and you see the spiritual dimension, it changes completely! You no longer say "We have had it!" But we look again and say, "They have had it!" Oh, that we would see the power of God! The powers and resources that God has made available to us in the realm of the Spirit.
- **Whenever I find myself in a physical circumstance that terrifies me. May I always remember to ask God by His Holy Spirit to stop me at that moment, asking Him, "Lord, would You show me the picture of what's happening here right now?" I cannot understand the true picture until You, Lord, show me what You are doing and what I can learn from the situation.**

2Ki 6:18 So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, and said, "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

- The Syrians came down to get Elisha, likely thinking they are going to effortlessly take him. Elisha prayed to the LORD, saying "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." You can have all the chariots, weaponry, massive numbers of soldiers, but a soldier without sight is going to have great difficulty.
- He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. This blindness happened in an instant. Imagine the panic that it turns them into little docile kittens
- "Blindness." This word occurs only here and in (Gen 19:11) - Lot's pursuers trying to get into the house). The term is related to light and seems to mean "a dazzling from bright light" (note the "chariots of fire" in (2Ki 6:17). Both biblical uses of the term involve a miraculous act with angelic presence and both are used in the context of deliverance from danger.

2Ki 6:19 Now Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, nor is this the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." But he led them to Samaria.

- By going to Samaria himself, Elisha did not lie, but did lead the Syrian army to where he ultimately would be found.

2Ki 6:20 So it was, when they had come to Samaria, that Elisha said, "LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and there they were, inside Samaria!

- Imagine as they open their eyes, looking at the archers are all around the walls. The whole Israeli army has them surrounded. Elisha and Jehoram were standing there.

2Ki 6:21 Now when the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, "My father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?"

- The king did not really know what to do. Here is his enemy delivered right into his hands. He says, "Shall I kill them?"

2Ki 6:22 But he answered, "You shall not kill them. Would you kill those whom you have taken captive with your sword and your bow? Set food and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master."

- Returning GOOD for evil, Elisha says to feed them. Give them a feast! You do not kill captives in a military campaign. These are the LORD's prisoners. Here is what He wants you to do. Set food and water before them.

2Ki 6:23 Then he prepared a great feast for them; and after they ate and drank, he sent them away and they went to their master. So the bands of Syrian raiders came no more into the land of Israel.

- They had been on these marauding excursions, frequently harassing and attacking. This ended that daily kind of harassment, and for a time there was peace.
- Here is a great example of not repaying evil for evil, but repaying good for evil, which was reported to their king upon their return. The Israeli's could have just killed every one of us, but they did not! The effect was that the Syrians no longer made these raids into the land of Israel.
- **How often do I return good for evil? When is the last time that I did that? What then occurred?**

Ben-Hadad's Siege of Samaria

2Ki 6:24 And it happened after this that Ben-Hadad king of Syria gathered all his army, and went up and besieged Samaria.

- In those days it was difficult to take a walled city. They would capture it by surrounding and cutting off all supplies, not letting anybody in or out. After a period of time, you would just starve the city into submission. Ben-Hadad began to besiege this city of Samaria, and it was successful

2Ki 6:25 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 (about a quart) of dove droppings for five shekels of silver.

- The hunger was terrible. Oh, what hunger will do to a person, reducing you to, eating a donkey's head.
- One-fourth of a kab of dove droppings was selling for five shekels of silver. People were craving any kind of nourishment at all, even what had passed through a bird. But it gets worse

2Ki 6:26 Then, as the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried out to him, saying, "Help, my lord, O king!"

- The woman asked King Jehoram to render a legal decision in her dispute with another woman.

2Ki 6:27 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?"

- Do you think I have food in my barn? Do you think that I still have wine in my winepresses? Man, I am hurting too lady. I do not have anything.

2Ki 6:28-29 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."

- The curses of the Mosaic covenant, especially for the sin of apostasy, predicted this sort of pagan cannibalism (*Lev 26:29*) *You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters.*
- Out of the extreme difficulty of the siege, the hunger would actually turn parents into cannibalism, eating their own children. This happened three times in the history of Israel. At this siege, by Ben-Hadad. Later, it happened in the siege of Jerusalem, by Nebuchadnezzar. In Jerusalem's final overthrow by the Romans, in 70 A.D., things became so severe that there again was cannibalism. Women began to eat their own children.
- **Parents become willing to sacrifice their children in order to satisfy their own fleshly appetites. That was happening in Israel then. That happens here today. The single great example of it is legalized abortion in the USA! What are my actions regarding response as a Christian to this?**

2Ki 6:30 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.

- When the woman said this, the king was shocked. It is so abhorrent that our body, our whole minds just sort of are repulsed by the very thought of it. The king ripped his clothes, his outer garment, to show his complete consternation, feelings of despair and hopelessness.

2Ki 6:31 Then he said, "God do so to me and more also, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat remains on him today!"

- The king made an oath to kill Elisha. Unfortunately, when we are guilty, rather than accepting our guilt, we try to then project our guilt onto others. "They did it! It is their fault!" Here he is trying now to blame Elisha for this horrible condition that existed in Samaria.

2Ki 6:32 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 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?"

- **Elisha was tuned in! God spoke to him on many occasions** of different things. Here he is, sitting with friends, suddenly he sort of gets a faraway look in his eye. Then he says, “Can you beat that! Look what that son of a murderer is planning now to send a guy here to get my head! He is going to be knocking at the door. Sure enough! The men opened the door, held him, and then here came Jehoram the king.

2Ki 6:33 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?"

- Jehoram rightly viewed the *LORD* as the instigator of the siege and famine in Samaria. He declared that he saw no hope that the *LORD* would reverse this situation.

Elisha Promises Food

2Ki 7:1 Then Elisha said, "Hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the LORD: 'Tomorrow about this time (seemingly impossible!) a seah (seven quarts) of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.' "

- Elisha prophesies that within twenty-four hours the siege, which has been on-going for months, is going to be over! There is going to be plenty to eat. Seven quarts of flour are going to sell for a shekel. Fourteen quarts of barley would also sell for a shekel. They would be able to buy six times as much food for one-fifth of the cost. Now you think about hearing that promise from God. You say, How in the world is that going to happen? We do not even have enough strength to leave this city, much less to engage that army and defeat it and to get these kinds of stores. It just seemed like an impossibility! One officer certainly did not believe it!
- **If I were to hear such an unbelievable prophecy as this, how would I respond? What would I do? Would my first response always be to seek my Lord, asking Him for help and guidance?**

2Ki 7:2 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."

- Here is an amazing prophecy, a glorious promise. The people are hurting. They are starving to death. “But it will all be over by this time tomorrow. A bushel of fine flour will be selling for sixty-five cents, right in the gates of Samaria!” “Man, are you kidding me? If there should be *windows in heaven*, could such a thing be? God will be going around and pulling open grain chutes in heaven, and raining barley on the city of Samaria, could that happen, could such a thing be?” The price of his unbelief, “You’ll see it, but you shall not eat it!”
- There is a terrible price for unbelief because it keeps you from enjoying the work of God. Think of what unbelief has cost people. Of the benefits and blessings of God. What people have lost out on, because of unbelief! Think of the great salvation that God has offered to man. Eternal life! This gift of God. Because of unbelief, people are being robbed of this glorious gift of eternal life, their unbelief, in the work of Jesus Christ. The finished work of salvation. Even though they see it, they cannot receive it. “You will see it,” the prophet said, “*but you shall not eat of it.*”

The Syrians Flee

2Ki 7:3 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?"

- If it was tough inside the city, it was harder on lepers. They were not allowed in the city because they were lepers. They were dependent on their food to come from the garbage and the scraps that would be thrown over the wall of the city for them to eat. By the time you are eating donkey heads and dove dung, there is nothing coming over the wall. These guys are in an absolutely desperate strait, knowing they are about to die even sooner than those that are dying within the city. They looked at one another and they said, “Why are we sitting here until we die?”
- That is a good question! Why just sit there and die? If you do not do something about your life, and about the sin in your life, it will destroy you. “The wages of sin is death. The soul that sins shall surely die.” Why just sit there in your sinful state, until you die? “Why sit here,” they said, “until we die?”
- **That is a great question. Not just for them, but for all of us. Why am I sitting here until I die? Any life that is not engaged, any Christian life, any life period, but any life that is not engaged in the advancement of God's work in His kingdom, in this world, is a life that is just sitting around waiting to die. It is a wasted life. How much wasting of my life is going on?**

- **Any life is a wasted life that does not ultimately hear from God.** Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord! They look at it and say, Why wait here until we die? They began to weigh out their options.

2Ki 7:4 *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.*"

- Every avenue is closed. We cannot go back, we cannot stay here without dying. There is only one possible solution.

2Ki 7:5 *And they rose at twilight (evening) 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.*

- **Reason led them to venture out, to see what might happen.** God had worked a marvelous work. He had emptied the camp of the Syrians. They had panicked, and they had fled, leaving the food on the tables, leaving their horses and donkeys all tethered. Everything was in place. They were so anxious to get out of there, they left everything behind so that they could run faster!
- **God had done a work. Nobody knew it.** Here, the work of God had made the provision for more than what the people could ever devour. Yet, within the city of Samaria, people did not know. There were still hungry, starving and dying. Just within yards of them, there's sufficient food for everybody. God had worked.
- **Desperate men discovered the work of God.** Men who had concluded that there is only one answer, Let us venture and see. If they kill us, does not matter, because we are going to die if we just sit here; if we go in the city. We will die if we do nothing; we may die by doing something, but we may not." It was just a slim little thing, which caused their venture in faith! As they did, they discovered the work of God!
- **How willing am I to take ventures of faith? In view of the uncertainties the lepers felt, would I have stepped out of the city toward the enemy?**

2Ki 7:6 *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!"*

- Notice what God does! They were in that encampment, and they start to hear chariots, noise, and an army approaching. God just does this, putting this thing in their ears. Maybe a heavenly host. He just puts it in everybody's ears. They hear this great army now that is coming upon them!

2Ki 7:7-8 *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.*

- They went in and they began to eat. They were not worried that maybe the Syrians were going to come in and catch and kill them. They are going to die anyhow. "Let us die full." There were golden and silver vessels, and they began to bury those. They went to the next tent, taking the food, beginning to bury the treasures; and on to the next tent.

2Ki 7:9 *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."*

- Here the lepers are in their conscience feeling we will be doing wrong if we do not share the blessings that we have stumbled on by a miracle of God with those that are equally in need with these riches. What a beautiful parallel in terms of the spiritual things, of sharing the spiritual truths in our living death. Spiritual death before we come to know Christ. It would not be right to know what we know and experience without telling people the good news of salvation in Christ!
- **Go and tell!** There is a great spiritual lesson for us here. We enjoy the Word of God! Today is a day of the Gospel of good news! But how about getting the Word out to others? What are we doing to share the Word with those who are starving spiritually? We ought to be busy getting the Word of God out to needy hearts. You may think, "I can't speak, I can't teach, I can't sing! God has given each of us a gift or ability to get the Word of God out. God expects each of us to use our gift! We must not hold our peace in this desperate hour!
- **Let us tell what God has done! This is a day of good news. How God has worked in my life! How is my life responding to this command, "Come, let us go and tell" the good news of the gospel!**

2Ki 7:10-12 *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.' "*

- Here is the tragedy now, God has worked, the king has heard the good news of the work of God, but he still cannot believe. King Jehoram would hold the people back from the work of God, through unbelief. A tragic thing. People hear the good news, "God has provided for your salvation. You do not have to die in your sins. God has given to you the gift of eternal life." But too many say, "Oh I cannot believe that. It is a trap.
- **Unbelief that holds them back from the work that God has done.** Deliverance, plenty, salvation, eternal life; God has worked. God has scattered the enemy. God has brought victory and salvation. But unbelief keeps a person from receiving the glorious provisions of God, that He has made for those who would trust in Him.

2Ki 7:13 *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."*

- **One of the servants.** God bless those advisors. They are all dying in that city. Can we investigate this instead of writing this off as an ambush? Let us send out some spies to see what is really happening.

2Ki 7:14-15 *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.*

- They went about 25 miles to the Jordan. The road was full of garments and weapons which the Syrians had thrown away in haste, trying to lighten their load in any way to run for their lives, they are throwing them all by the wayside. The messengers returned and told the king.

2Ki 7:16 *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.*

- So, guess what? 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, which is the way that it always happens, then and now.
- **According to the word of the LORD, so will this prophecy occur!** (1Th 4:16-18) *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. [18a] Therefore comfort one another with these words.* That too is going to happen according to the word of the Lord. **Am I certain of that?**
- Does that seem amazing to you that tomorrow you are going to have something that is worth six times the wealth you can imagine for one-fifth the price? Can you look at that and logically say, How's that going to happen? How is that blessing going to come?
- **It is going to happen according to the Word of the LORD.** It is our God who delivers, who delivers tonight, who has delivered us. Paul says, (2Co 1:10) *who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us.* What a great salvation we have.

2Ki 7:17-19 *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, (God's promises are always true) 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."*

- This is the officer that said, "Oh, if windows were open in heaven could such a thing be?" The king places this man to control the gate so that there will be an orderly movement of the people out of the city out into the camp. He puts this man between thousands and thousands of starving people and tables full of food. Thanks,

boss. So, he put him in charge of the gate, but as the people just began in their desperation to run through, they trampled him to death just as Elisha said. “You are going to see it, but you are not going to eat it.”

2Ki 7:20 And so it happened to him, for the people trampled him in the gate, and he died.

- **Again, the tragedy of unbelief! God did a work,** God kept His word, God fulfilled His promise, but because of the officer’s unbelief, he saw it, but could not partake.
- **Unbelief will rob you of the work and the blessings of God.** Unbelief will keep you from partaking of the provisions that God has made. Oh God help us, to throw off the shackles of unbelief, and to completely trust Him. If I look at God's promises with unbelief, it never affects God's faithfulness to His promises. His promises will always come to pass. What will always be affected is my ability to enjoy the fulfillment of that prophecy or receive the blessing that I would have received related to the promise.
- **The Bible is going to have the final say on everything in our lives** because God's reputation is wrapped up in His Word. Here is a valuable lesson. We see this man who so limited himself because he would not believe in the promises of God. So, we allow it to search our hearts and not allow some area of expertise in our life to dismiss the Word of God as too simplistic. If there were windows in heaven, could God supply? And this kind of thing that can sometimes come out of our heart. but we are to submit it to the word of God and to learn the lesson even from his failure here, which He recorded for us in the scriptures.

SUMMARY:

- **Return good for evil! 2Ki 6:23** How often do I return good for evil? When is the last time that I did that? What then occurred?
- **How willing am I to sacrifice for others?** 2Ki 6:28-29 Parents become willing to sacrifice their children in order to satisfy their own fleshly appetites. That was happening in Israel then. That happens here today. The single great example of it is legalized abortion in the USA! What are my actions regarding response as a Christian to this?
- **Help me with my unbelief? 2Ki 7:1** If I were to hear such an unbelievable prophecy as this, how would I respond? What would I do? Would my first response always be to seek my Lord, asking Him for help and guidance?
- **Why are we sitting here until we die? 2Ki 7:3** That is a great question. Not just for them, but for all of us. Why am I sitting here until I die? Any life that is not engaged, any Christian life, any life period, but any life that is not engaged in the advancement of God's work in His kingdom, in this world, is a life that is just sitting around waiting to die. It is a wasted life. How much wasting of my life is going on?
- **Go and tell the good news of the Gospel! 2Ki 7:9** Let us tell what God has done! This is a day of good news. How God has worked in my life! “Come, let us go and tell” the good news of the gospel!

2Ki 7:9b Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king's household." Let us “I Speak Jesus”

I SPEAK JESUS Here be Lions, Darlene Zschech (3:35/3:38)

I just want to speak the name of Jesus Over every heart and every mind 'Cause I know there is peace within Your presence I speak Jesus I just want to speak the name of Jesus Till every dark addiction starts to break Declaring there is hope and there is freedom I speak Jesus 'Cause Your name is power Your name is healing Your name is life Break every stronghold Shine through the shadows Burn like a fire I just want to speak the name of Jesus Over fear and all anxiety To every soul held captive by depression I speak Jesus Your name is power Your name is healing Your name is life Break every stronghold Shine through the shadows Burn like the fire Shout Jesus from the mountains Jesus in the streets Jesus in the darkness over every enemy Jesus for my family I speak the holy name Jesus Your name is power Your name is healing Your name is life Break every stronghold Shine through the shadows Burn like a fire I just want to speak the name of Jesus Over every heart and every mind 'Cause I know there is peace within His presence I speak Jesus

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study II Kings, Chapters 8-9.