

Daily Devotional, March 14, 2021

'Getting Back To Normal', (2 Kings 7:18)

“And it happened after this that Ben-Hadad king of Syria gathered all his army, and went up and besieged Samaria. 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. 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.”” (2 Kings 6:24-25, 7:18)

It’s been a year since the pandemic that had come to our shores from China began to hit home in America. A lot of folks were throwing around the despised and overused phrase ‘new normal.’ It is not normal by any stretch to be alienated by any degree from family, church, work, or school. Now we know more experientially what it was like for the lepers who were quarantined *“at the entrance of the gate”* of Samaria (2 Kings 7:3).

Syria had besieged Samaria, and a great famine had come upon the land. The people were suffering. But the Lord accomplished a miraculous deliverance of Israel from the Syrian army (2 Kings 7:6-7). The scourge upon the land had ended. Things in Samaria turned from abnormal to normal in a very short time. So it is here in America right now. We have vaccines and treatments available for the plague, and we are nearing a good level of immunity between that and all the folks who have already had some exposure to the virus and have built up natural immunity. The scourge is nearly over.

So what will you do now? Will you redouble your efforts regarding spiritual disciplines? Will you use the regained freedom to spend time with those you love, without distraction from phones and tech gadgets? There are politicians and scientists who want you to stay in fear, starved of purpose, and worshipping at the altars of socialism and science. Will you move forward in the power of God, without fear or anxiety at the quick return to normalcy that should be forthcoming? The children of Israel rushed back to normalcy with rejoicing, and not apprehension in their day. What will you do now, in your day?