



EXPECTATION-DRIVEN FAITH

2 KINGS 7:1-2, 16-20

**Woodland Park Church of Christ
26 January 2020**

*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.' "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."** II Kings 7:1-2 (emphasis added)*

Initial Points

- II Kings is the focus of Bible Bowl 2020.
- Hopefully, scholars have started to reading the materials.
- ***Work the Works!*** (while it is yet day, for the night cometh when no one can work).
- II Kings provides a cautionary tale of what happens when God's people rebel and continuously reject Him.
 - Israel (Northern Kingdom) overtaken by Assyrians -- **II Kings 17:1-6 (Shelmaneser → Hoshea)**
 - Judah (Southern Kingdom) taken captive by Babylonians – **II Kings 25 (Nebuchadnezzar → Zedekiah)**

- Today's lesson text is a continuation of events from II Kings 6.
- The Syrians, led by Ben-Hadad, had besieged Samaria (the capital of Israel). **II Kings 6:24**
- Supplies cut off, and great famine in the land.
 - Donkey's head sold for 80 shekels of silver;
 - One-fourth of a kab of dove droppings going for five shekels of silver. **II Kings 6:25**
 - People resorted to cannibalism. **II Kings 6:26-29**
- King of Israel blamed Elisha. **See II Kings 6:30-31**

Attitude in times of difficulty, struggle, challenge, & ordeals --

- Do you have an expectancy of success and endurance?
- Do you focus on the size of the problem or the **MAGNITUDE OF GOD? See II Kings 6:16**
- Remember, God --
 - Is true (**Romans 3:4, Psalm 84:1**);
 - Is faithful (**Psalm 37:25, II Peter 3:9**);
 - Cares for you (**I Peter 5:7**);
 - **Works all things out for the good of His children (Romans 8:28).**

Healthy Expectations → Solid Faith

Should prompt us to move. James 2:14, 18

Lord, I really do not know **how** this is going to happen, but I am trusting and believing in YOU that it will come to pass.

- Math is not my forte, but I need calculus to get this degree.
- If I am accepted to this school, how am I going to fund it?
- These people are rebellious and stiff-necked, how can I possibly minister to them?

SURELY ENOUGH →

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.

II Kings 7:17-20

But without faith it is impossible to [walk with God and] please Him, for whoever comes [near] to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He rewards those who [earnestly and diligently] seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 (AMP)

Lord's Invitation Extended to All

- Be added to the Lord's body --

Hear the gospel (Acts 15:7,
Romans 10:17)

Believe (Hebrews 11:6, Acts 15:7)

Repent (Acts 2:38)

Confess (Acts 8:36, Romans 10:10)

Be baptized for the remission of sin
(Acts 2:38) or

Lord's Invitation (cont'd)

- Be reconciled unto the Lord (**1 John 1:8-9**);
or
- Desire prayer. (**James 5:16**).