

POSITIVE ACTIONS FOR NEGATIVE TIMES

Part 1 - Why Sit Here?

AN EXTREMELY NEGATIVE SITUATION (2 Kings 7:3-4 NKJV)

- Most likely not a short term problem
 1. People with leprosy were always quarantined
- The situation goes from bad to worse
 1. Famine in the city meant isolation and no resources
 2. The Syrian army threatening to wipe out everyone

UNWILLING TO SIT AND WAIT FOR DEATH

- They honestly looked at their situation
 1. They did not sugarcoat
 2. But they were looking from an action perspective - what can we do?
- Willing to take a risk
 1. Adopted a course of action - the only one that could keep them alive
 2. Already had factored in the worst case scenario
 3. Action albeit risky is better than waiting for the inevitable

GOD'S INVOLVEMENT (2 Kings 7:5-8 NKJV)

- The Lord caused...
 1. It was only four men but
 2. Fear can yield to wild speculation - the Syrians "figured out" what was happening
- Their cup ran over
 1. The four men were fed and enriched
 2. The most unlikely became the bearers of good news (2 Kings 7:9 NKJV)

POSITIVE ACTIONS FOR THESE NEGATIVE TIMES

- When you feel "stuck" in a negative situation
 1. When it goes long it can wear you down
 2. When it seems there are no options - easy to get used to just sitting and waiting
- Don't just settle
 1. Don't adopt an "it is what it is" mentality
 2. With God there is always some form of action we can take (2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV)
- Acts of our faith
 1. We want to give God something to work with
 2. We can rejoice in the Lord (Philippians 4:4 NKJV)
 3. We can pray (Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV)
 4. We can give thanks (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV) (Psalm 69:30 NKJV)