## Watchman Part 20

(The watchman is a good minister who can see God's provision and protection in times of scarcity.)

"For this is what the Lord says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink." (2 Kings 3:17)

The above Scripture was prophesied by the prophet Elisha to the three kings of Judah, Israel and Edom when they went together to fight the Moabites and end up with lack of water. Read carefully below the whole story:

"I Joram son of Ahab became king of Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned twelve years. 2 He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, but not as his father and mother had done. He got rid of the sacred stone of Baal that his father had made, 3 Nevertheless he clung to the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit; he did not turn away from them. 4 Now Mesha king of Moab raised sheep, and he had to supply the king of Israel with a hundred thousand lambs and with the wool of a hundred thousand rams. 5 But after Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. 6 So at that time King Joram set out from Samaria and mobilized all Israel. 7 He also sent this message to Jehoshaphat king of Judah: "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to fight against Moab?" "I will go with you," he replied. "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses." 8 "By what route shall we attack?" he asked. "Through the Desert of Edom," he answered. 9 So the king of Israel set out with the king of Judah and the king of Edom. After a roundabout march of seven days, the army had no more water for themselves or for the animals with them. 10 "What!" exclaimed the king of Israel. "Has the LORD called us three kings together only to hand us over to Moab?" 11 But Jehoshaphat asked, "Is there no prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of the LORD through him?" An officer of the king of Israel answered, "Elisha son of Shaphat is here. He used to pour water on the hands of Elijah." 12 Jehoshaphat said, "The word of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him. 13 Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What do we have to do with each other? Go to the prophets of your father and the prophets of your mother." "No," the king of Israel answered, "because it was the LORD who called us three kings together to hand us over to Moab." 14 Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you or even notice you. 15 But now bring me a harpist." While the harpist was playing, the hand of the LORD came upon Elisha 16 and he said, "This is what the LORD says: Make this valley full of ditches. 17 For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. 18 This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also hand Moab over to you. 19 You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town. You will cut down every good tree, stop up all the springs, and ruin every good field with stones."

20 The next morning, about the time for offering the sacrifice, there it was--water flowing from the direction of Edom! And the land was filled with water. 21 Now all the Moabites had heard that the kings had come to fight against them; so every man, young and old, who could bear arms was called up and stationed on the border, 22 When they got up early in the morning, the sun was shining on the water. To the Moabites across the way, the water looked red--like blood. 23 "That's blood!" they said. "Those kings must have fought and slaughtered each other. Now to the plunder, Moab!" 24 But when the Moabites came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and fought them until they fled. And the Israelites invaded the land and slaughtered the Moabites. 25 They destroyed the towns, and each man threw a stone on every good field until it was covered. They stopped up all the springs and cut down every good tree. Only Kir Hareseth was left with its stones in place, but men armed with slings surrounded it and attacked it as well. 26 When the king of Moab saw that the battle had gone against him, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but they failed. 27 Then he took his firstborn son, who was to succeed him as king, and offered him as a sacrifice on the city wall. The fury against Israel was great; they withdrew and returned to their own land." (2Kings 3:1-27)

The king of Israel was a wicked one, and the king of Judah was accompanying him to go and fight the Moabites. Along with them were the people of Edom. From what Elisha spoke to Joram the king of Israel we can discern that God was not pleased with him, "As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you or even notice you." (2King 3:14)

Elisha was the prophet who has the word of God as king Jehoshaphat said, "The word of the LORD is with him." (2Kings 3:12a) So he spoke to them the word of God; that the Lord will save them from the current trouble that they are in, from the lack of water and from the Moabites army, "17 For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. 18 This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also hand Moab over to you. 19 You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town. You will cut down every good tree, stop up all the springs, and ruin every good field with stones." (2Kings 3:17-19)

Elisha as watchman was able to see the provision of God for those kings and His deliverance for them. He imparted that to them. God for sure was not happy with King Joram and for sure God was not happy that king Jehoshaphat went out with the army of Judah to help him. But God delivered them from the lack of water and gave them victory over the Moabites.

Many Christians they live a sinful life like Joram son of Ahab, and many Christians like Jehoshaphat they are not wise and are not good in their stewardship, by keeping relationships and support evil doers and put hand and agree with non believers and accept support from them and work with them. Sure we saw that God was not happy with the above kings. But God did provide and help them to get delivered and saved them. Why God still helped them in spite of their shortcomings? Jesus said, ".... He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." (Matthew 5:45b) We cannot question God or interfere with His ways. As watchman and as

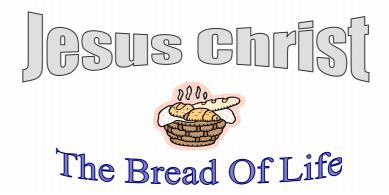
watchwoman of God, we might be like Elisha seeing and recognizing sinful Christians and compromising believers. That might caused us grieve, pain, anger, and jealousy especially when we see God is providing and prospering them. But we need to observe what God is doing, be patient like Him, and keep our heart full of love to bring them to repentance, and continue to warn them to turn away from their sinful course of life. "43 You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:43-48)

In addition to what we mentioned as watchman and woman we need to guard our hearts, "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." (Proverbs 4:23) Elisha was called to minister to people who materially are far better than himself. He had the word of God that they have not. But he guard his heart well against anger and jealousy and ministered to them in accordance to God's will and decision. The Lord may call you to minister to people who are materially far better from you and they have resources that more than of what you have. You need to guard your heart as Elisha did and be protected from worldliness, envy and jealousy. Rebuke them with God's word and minister to them with the grace of God, and declare to them God's will and His decision, His provision, His protection and His good plan for them for their lives and for that particular situation.

My Dear and Beloved: The Lord is righteous in all His dealing. He will not allow the wicked to prosper or to prevail. He may allow that and for a short time, but finally He will see that His word will come true and that the wicked will get punished for their wicked ways if they refuse to repent. "11 The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you see, Jeremiah?" "I see the branch of an almond tree," I replied. 12 The LORD said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled." 13 The word of the LORD came to me again: "What do you see?" "I see a boiling pot, tilting away from the north," I answered. 14 The LORD said to me, "From the north disaster will be poured out on all who live in the land." (Jeremiah 1:11-14) The watchman can see correctly what God is showing and doing. He will not miss that the Lord one day will be going to punish the wicked. "You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. (Psalm 91:8) As watchman and watchwoman should be able to see how the Lord will dealt with the wicked, "Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth." (Psalm 46:8) as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that brings me clarity. Lord I repent from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Lord thank you for giving me your word and calling me to minister to people who are far away from you. Lord give

me patient and clear mind to be able to remain stable in front of all temptation and guard my heart well so I can continually and successfully minister to people in the way that you want me to minister to them, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.



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"I I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away \* their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." (2Timothy 4:1-5)

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