



## The Shelter of the Most High

### I. Great Needs & Remarkable Answers

❖ An Assyrian siege, desperation, unlikely heroes

2 Kings 6:27-29 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>27</sup> The king replied, "If the LORD does not help you, where can I get help for you? From the threshing floor? From the winepress?" <sup>28</sup> Then he asked her, "What's the matter?" She answered, "This woman said to me, 'Give up your son so we may eat him today, and tomorrow we'll eat my son.' <sup>29</sup> So we cooked my son and ate him. The next day I said to her, 'Give up your son so we may eat him,' but she had hidden him."

2 Kings 7:1-2 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>1</sup> Elisha said, "Hear the word of the LORD. This is what the LORD says: About this time tomorrow, a seah of flour will sell for a shekel and two seahs of barley for a shekel at the gate of Samaria."

<sup>2</sup> The officer on whose arm the king was leaning said to the man of God, "Look, even if the LORD should open the floodgates of the heavens, could this happen?" "You will see it with your own eyes," answered Elisha, "but you will not eat any of it!"

2 Kings 7:5-7 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>5</sup> At dusk they got up and went to the camp of the Arameans. When they reached the edge of the camp, not a man was there, <sup>6</sup> **for the Lord had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army**, so that they said to one another, "Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to attack us!" <sup>7</sup> So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives.

### II. Our Victory & Our Great Need

Revelation 3:14-22 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>14</sup> "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. <sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm--neither hot nor cold--I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.

<sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

<sup>21</sup> To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> He who has an ear, **let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**"

### III. A Response

#### A. Posture

2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>7</sup> **I have fought the good fight**, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

2 Corinthians 11:24-27 (NIV®)

<sup>24</sup> Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, <sup>26</sup> I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. <sup>27</sup> I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV®)

<sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

<sup>8</sup> **Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

## B. Awareness

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV®)

<sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

## C. Equipped

❖ Jesus' instruction to disciples after His resurrection

Luke 24:45-49 (NIV®)

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

## Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your intervention on our behalf. In Your great mercy and kindness You have delivered us from destruction. We know that our strength alone did not bring victory. Open our eyes to see, our hearts to understand the majesty and splendor of our God. Help us to live in such a way that Your blessings may come upon us, in Jesus' name, amen.

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