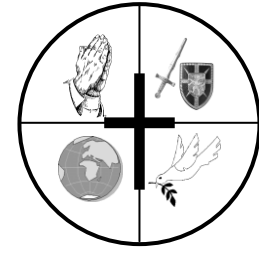


Abounding Faith Temple
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Bible Study Notes
The Blessing of a Bankrupt Situation!



1 Kings 17:1-7

On November 7, the euphoria surrounding the reelection of the 44th president of the United States, Barack Obama, was tempered by the discussion of impending economic doom represented by what is known as the fiscal cliff.

The fiscal cliff is the term used to refer to the problem that is facing our country December 31' 2012 if a deal is not made concerning the budget in congress. One thing that will happen is the expiration of the payroll tax cut. (In Other words its going to cost more to have people working for you.) An end in Bush era tax cuts for the rich(people that have more will no longer be abler benefit at the expense of those who have less). Taxes associated with obamacare will kick in (it costs more to be sick) and many programs will be cut. (Having to do more with less) It is this climate where we find ourselves. We cannot celebrate victory because there is something else in the atmosphere. In this insane the inability to reach a deal will drive the country into a worse recession than when Bush was president.

This problem has been lingering for three years but a solution could not be reached because the republicans were determined cause the president to fail. Some of us don't lack solutions, we just have the wrong people around us who don't care if we are stuck in. Recession.

This is a critical time in the history of the divided kingdom of Israel and Judah. Just as it isn't pivotal time in the history of our country and God does what he always does in a critical time he sends a word! When times are tough you need God to send a word.

THE TEXT

Ahab was a wicked king. 1 Kings 16:29-33 "in the thirty eighth year of Asa king of JudH, Ahab so. Of Omri became king of Israel, and he reigned in as,aria twenty two years, Ahab so. Of Omri did more evil in the sight if The Lord than any of those before him."

Elijah was not merely the prophet of this drought in the sense of just saying what God said, but it was the cause of the drought because he said there shall not be dew or rain except at word.

The first thing I see in the text is the power of a submitted life. James 5:17

A submitted life is one of Obedience-God said get thee hence eastward and hide thyself by the brook cherith.

B. A submitted life faces Obstacles -Arab wanted him dead because his prophecy was a threat to his way of life.

C. A submitted life must go through Obscurity (hidden seasons).

1. Intimacy in isolation- you cannot talk to anyone but God.

2. Preparation by separation- cherith was the cutting place. Isolation separated him from people but this separation was internal. God wants to relieve us of mind sets, that are an hinder our walk with Him.

3. Trust among the treacherous. God blessed Elijah from an usual source.

a. A Raven doesn't even feed its own young -(job 38:41, psalm 147)

b. Ravens generally don't like being around humans...and avoid them when possible.

c. Ravens are unclean birds. God's people could not eat them, nor offer them in sacrifice.

d. Ravens normally only eat food that has been dead for a while.

e. Ravens don't share!

4. A Submitted life is the of opportunity. God says I have commanded the raven to feed you THERE. When you get THERE there is:

A. Protection

B. Provision

C. Power

God is just waiting on you to go THERE!