

## **SINGLE ALLIANCE**

**060108**

### **FLOURISHING IN THE FAMINE**

#### **I. Introduction**

- A. Are you all worry free? That is what we talked about last week. Get the CD if you were not here.
- B. This week I want to share a message from the Lord about the times we are living in. Many are looking at the economy and gas prices and fear recession and even depression and inflation. Many Christians are living in fear and it can and will take them off track.
- C. I want to talk about flourishing in the famine. Inflation is nothing new. It has come and gone for thousands of years. In the Bible these times were called famine. The bible has much to say about famines and God's promises to us in them.
- D. Famines are part of this fallen world, but as redeemed saints we have God's promises to flourish in the midst of famine.
- E. There are two reactions people had in the Bible when a famine came. They either let the famine dictate to them the direction and quality of their lives or they trusted God to dictate their direction and quality of their lives in the midst of famine.
- F. These two reactions really come down to two mindsets. One is famine thinking and the other is prosperous thinking. One is focused on circumstances and the other one on the unchanging God and His unchanging promises that change circumstances.

#### **II. A Famine mindset**

- A. Gen. 12:10- Abram got into fear and left the land for Egypt. He got Hagar there!

- B. Ruth 1:2-5- Elimelech got into fear and left the land for Moab. He and his sons died there.
- C. Many get in fear in times of inflation and when the economy turns down and they try to protect themselves but they make foolish decisions.
  - 1. Stop tithing
  - 2. Get a second job that takes them out of church
  - 3. We should always be good stewards and not be frivolous, but we need to have an abundance mindset.
- D. Fear is rooted in unbelief in God ability or desire to supply for you. This is a hard heart!
  - 1. Ps. 78:19-20
  - 2. 2 Kings 7:1-2
  - 3. Matthew 15:32-34

### **III. A prosperity mindset**

- A. Gen. 26:1- Isaac was tempted to go to Egypt when famine hit but he obeyed God and stayed put and sowed in that land and reaped 100 fold!
- B. 1 Kings 17:1-9-Elijah followed God's leading in the famine and was provided for.
- C. Matthew 16:5-10- Jesus always had a prosperity mindset in circumstances of lack
- D. Jesus taught Peter that He would provide for him in lack
  - 1. Luke 5:4
  - 2. Matthew 17:24-27
  - 3. He blessed his abilities and talents to provide for him

### **IV. Redeemed from the famine**

- A. Fear is cast out by love
  - 1. Romans 8:35- Famine cannot separate us from God's love

- B. Fear is removed by knowledge of what Jesus has done for us
- C. Famine is a curse of the Law
  - 1. Deut. 28:24- famine is a curse
- D. Galatians 3:13- He has redeemed us from the curse of the Law
- E. 2 Samuel 21:1, 8-10- This is a type of Jesus. 7 represent completion. They were nailed up on wooden spikes. The mother of the condemned was present like Mary was. They were removed when the rain came which said the debt had been paid and the curse removed! Jesus died and paid our debt and removed the curse from us.
- F. The rain was sent. Acts 2:16-17
- G. We are redeemed from the famine!

**V. Promises in the famine**

- A. Ps. 33:19
- B. Ps. 37:18-19
- C. Ps. 107:35-38