

GET UP AND GO

Int.

1. Aim: To show what it means to really get involved in Christianity !
2. Moses gave a warning - Deut. 28:53-58
3. II Kings 6:24-7:4 Great famine in a city of Samaria
 - a. V. 25 NKJV **"And there was a great famine in Samaria; and indeed they besieged it until a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and one-fourth of a kab of dove droppings for five shekels of silver."**
 - i. Head of donkey sold for 80 pieces of silver = \$100
 - ii. 1/4 of a kab of dove droppings sold for 5 shekels of silver = \$20 to \$40
 - b. Hunger of one woman drove her to boil and eat her own son to sustain her own life - 2 Kings 6:26-29
 - c. Four leprous men came to the gate of the city to beg.
 - i. During prosperity, the lot of the leper was hard.
 - ii. Because of the famine, these lepers were starving to death
4. These 4 lepers discussed the situation among themselves and determined that they could do one of three things:
 - (1) They could go back into the city
 - (2) They could sit still and beg at the gate
 - (3) Or they could get up and go face the enemy. A great Syrian army was camped just out of the city. They could get up and go take their chances with them.
5. They reasoned: 2Kings 7:3-4 ¶ **Now there were four leprous men at the entrance of the gate; and they said to one another, "Why are we sitting here until we die? 4 "If we say, 'We will enter the city,' the famine is in the city, and we shall die there. And if we sit here, we die also. Now therefore, come, let us surrender to the army of the Syrians. If they keep us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall only die."**
6. If we will make some applications, we will see that we are face to face with the very same choices these lepers faced 300 years ago in Samaria.

Discussion

I. THE WORLD IS HAVING A SPIRITUAL FAMINE

- A. We are in the greatest period of material prosperity, but the greatest spiritual depression.
 - 1. "We are a generation that has everything to live with, and nothing to live for." quote by Brad Brumley
 - 2. Thousands here in our own nation, have never heard a Gospel Sermon
 - 3. Millions die in the world not aware that there is a God.
- B. We are not taking the gospel to our own nation, not even to our own cities much less:
 - 1. "...into all the world." Mk. 16:16
 - 2. Or "...unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8
- C. World Population is about 6½ Billion -
 - 1. The population for the U.S. is 295 million
 - 2. And the great majority of these are lost in Sin.
- D. So it is correct to say that we are in the midst of a great spiritual famine!

II. IN THIS FAMINE CHRISTIANS HAVE THE SAME THREE OPTIONS AS THE LEPERS

- A. Go back into the world
 - 1. We can go back into the world, our old way of life
 - 2. II Cor. 6:17
 - 3. The leprous men reasoned: "The famine is in the city and we shall die there." II Kings 7:4
 - 4. Sure and certain death awaits those who go back. - 1 John 2:15-17 "...and the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."
 - 5. Some who are afraid to go back, look back.
 - a. "Remember Lot's wife" - Lk. 17:32
 - b. She might have wanted to carry some of her goods with her.
 - c. Some try to be a Christian and hang onto their old way of life at the same time.
 - d. Matt. 6:24 "...ye cannot serve God and Mammon."

6. A far worse fate awaits us there now than if we had never known the truth.
 - a. 11. Pet. 2:20-22
 - b. More abandoned. More guilt
 - c. More difficult to bring to truth again.

B. We can "Sit Still"

1. We can continue to do, exactly as we have been doing, no more, no less.
2. I am not trying to criticize the good which has been done in the past!
3. But we haven't done enough. Where is the man who thinks that we have done all that we could have done?
4. Neither are we to rest on our laurels - we are to "go on unto perfection." Heb.6:1
 - a. We must continue to work all of our life
 - b. We eat all of our life
5. When a plant stops growing it dies
6. Phil. 3:13-14
7. One talent man sat still and he was condemned
8. Matt. 25:30
9. To sit still would mean spiritual death

C. We can Get up and Go

1. Like the lepers, we can get up and go out to face the enemy.
2. We can wage an all out war against Satan, the cause of the great spiritual famine
 - a. We have our marching orders - Matt. 28:18-20
 - b. We are instructed to "...**endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**" 11 Tim.2:3-4
 - (1) Endure hardness
 - (2) Deny self
 - (3) Do not entangle self with affairs of this life
 - c. The Lord will be with us "And lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:20
 - d. Phil. 4:13 **"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."**

Conclusion

1. When the lepers came to the camp of the Syrians they found it empty and deserted.
 - a. The Lord had made a great noise in the night
 - b. They thought they had hired the Hittites and Egyptians
 - c. They fled leaving their camp behind.
 - d. Now the lepers had plenty of food to eat

 2. If we will only get up and go, God will make the way for us!
 - a. Rom. 8:28
 - b. Rom. 8:31b

 3. What choice are you going to make?
 - a. Go back - some have = they will die like Demas
 - b. Sit still - many do = they will die like the one talent man
 - c. Get up and Go - some do = they will live an abundant life.

 4. Will you get up and Go? It's the only choice we have !
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