

## **AND WE HOLD OUR PEACE (2 Kings 7:8-11)**

### **I. The lepers delight (vs. 8a).**

- A. Notice their situation (vs. 3-4).
  - 1. They believed it to be better to try their hand with the Syrians than to sit there and starve to death.
  - 2. Dying quickly was much better than dying slowly.
- B. To their dismay, when they arrived at the outskirts of camp, no one was there because God had sent a noise of chariots and they ran scared thinking the Hittites or Egyptians had come (vs. 5-7).
  - 1. The army left everything - food, animals, belongings, everything.
  - 2. The lepers were rescued from certain death.
  - 3. They, like we would probably do, started to live it up.
- C. They delighted in their refreshment.
  - 1. They began to eat as if there was no tomorrow.
  - 2. They went from starving to having more than they could eat in a week.
  - 3. As Christians we are refreshed spiritually by the Bread of Life and allowed to drink at the fountain of the water of life (John 6:35; Revelation 21:6).
  - 4. We are spiritually refreshed daily with more than we can ever use while there are those around us lost in sin.
- D. They delighted in their riches.
  - 1. They were dirt poor a few minutes before this, having nothing and being outcasts of society.
  - 2. Now, they were hoarding riches to themselves.
  - 3. Christians are given the riches of spiritual blessings in through Christ (Ephesians 1:3).
  - 4. People around us are wallowing in spiritual poverty and we are rich with the presence, power and promises of God.
- E. They delighted in their raiment.
  - 1. They were normally dressed in rags, wearing what they had when they were pronounced leprous.
  - 2. They wore what people threw away, but now they were dressed with the finest clothing of the Syrian army.
  - 3. Before our conversion we were in spiritual rags (Isaiah 64:6), but now we have put on Christ (Galatians 3:27).
- F. Christians ought to be delighted to be such and enjoy the many blessings we have in Christ.

### **II. The lepers dilemma (vs. 8b-9).**

- A. Notice their realization - they had been so caught up in their new found riches that they had forgotten about the peoples suffering.
  - 1. They came to realize that they had been worse off than everyone and now were better off than all.
  - 2. They realized they were hoarding these things up and there were



- them the way we've been treated..
4. However those in the city needed to hear the message and they took it to them.
  5. Nothing on our part can show more love and concern than teaching someone the gospel.
  6. In spite of how someone has treated you in the past, of how they are now they still need the gospel message.
  7. We have a life changing message and we need to have compassion enough to take it to lost people.
- D. Their decision resulted in conversions.
1. When they brought the message to the gates there was at first skepticism and belief that it was a trick by the Syrians to lure them into their camp.
  2. When it was finally believed, their message resulted in the saving of a city.
  3. When we share the gospel message, we are not responsible for the results, only the part we control.
  4. When we determine to tell people the gospel message, some will believe and some won't, but we still must tell.
  5. We don't know how it will turn out when we teach someone the gospel.

Not an original outline but don't know the source.