

# THE SOUND OF RESOLUTION

Who knows that life is a summation of seasons we go through? In the same way that there are seasons in the natural, you and I go through seasons as well. We are about to hit winter now and unfortunately no matter how strong your prayers are, you cannot pray away winter.

- Its not a matter of if, it is a matter of when a change of season will happen to you.
- The question is, what are going to do about it – whenever we talk about seasons, the natural inclination is to think of the bad seasons only or rather the winters of your life.
- Do you know that if you are not prepared for your summer, the summer season can destroy you? Have you developed enough character during your winter so that when your summer comes, it will not break you?
- The way you experience seasons of your life is determined by your response to the seasons
- Your response to every situation has a sound in the spirit – the way it sounds in the spirit, will determine whether you become victorious or you become a loser.

This brings me to the title of my message – I want to talk to you on the subject matter

## **THE SOUND OF RESOLUTION.**

God wants you and I to respond (well calculated and thought out action) with great resolute or resolve to life situations.

Resolution is the noun form of the verb resolve which means to decide firmly on a course of action or to have a firm determination to do something

From this definition I can easily say people of great resolve are people of great faith

When you walk by faith, when you respond to your situation with great resolve, heaven comes to your aid.

Faith has a sound in the spirit and it is a sound of victory.

- There is a story in the bible that brings this to life – there was a time when the Syrian king Ben-Hadad decided to besiege the city of Samaria in 2 Kings 6.
- He gathered his troops and surrounded the city of Samaria – his idea was not to storm the city but to starve it.
- The plan of the enemy is to squeeze life out of you slowly – the devil creates limitations in your life in order to frustrate your forward movement.
- We are not told how long this went for but what we know is that it was long enough to create a famine inside the city.

### **2 Kings 6:25**

*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.*

- Some of our greatest battles are not visible to the outside person but they silently consume us, it is battles that we will only know when you drop dead, when someone leaves the faith, when someone files for divorce.
- Whether your battle is playing out in the open or it is within the confines of your heart, you need to respond to it appropriately.
- Nothing changes unless there is a faith based response to the situation.
- When the king saw that the situation was not abating, he had to find the source of the problem and he thought Elisha had something to do with the problem
- When Elisha was called to the scene, he brought with him a solution from a different realm – his solution was not of this world, he did not suggest attacking the Syrian outpost.
- Hear what He said:

### **2 Kings 7:1**

*Then Elisha said, "Hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the LORD: 'Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.'"*

- Without the involvement of the word, no battle can be won – the presence of the word makes victory a possibility!
- Elisha simply released the word – the word was going to bring about immediate relief to the situation.
- Though we are in the world, we do not fight like the world does – 2 Cor 10: 3 For though we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh.
- Yes the word was released but the effect and impact of the word in your situation is determine by your response.

### **2 Kings 7:2**

*So an officer on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God and said, "Look, if the LORD would make windows in heaven, could this thing be?" And he said, "In fact, you shall see it with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it."*

- It's not whether the word has no power effect change, but it's whether you have capacity to contain the power of the word
- Despite being close to where the word was being released, the officer failed to be a beneficiary of the word – his response disqualified him.
- Despite being full of power to perform miracles, Jesus could not perform miracles in His own home town – Mark 6:5

### **Hebrews 4:2**

*For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.*

- It does not matter how long you have been in church, you still need to be childlike towards the word of God.

- There is a response required when you are facing a calamity

## **2 Kings 7:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> 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? <sup>4</sup> "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."

- In verse 2, the official heard the word but underestimated its power and ability – this guy was in a place of comfort and though there was famine he had never mastered the art of resolution.
- In verse 3 onwards we have a totally different response to the same problem – these were lepers, a neglected group of people, who had learnt to fight for their survival
- How these lepers reasoned themselves into a resolution to make a visit in the night to the camp of the Syrians.
- They were ready to perish for hunger and they took the battle to the enemy – it is time that you take the battle to the enemy's camp
- Why have you stopped asking, why have you stopped knocking, why have you stopped seeking, why have you stopped declaring, binding and loosening?
- The pain of not changing must be more than the pain of changing. It is time for you to call it what it is, you have been discouraged and no longer believe that your situation is redeemable.
- You need to work as if it only depends on you and pray as if it only depends on God

## **1 Timothy 6:12**

*Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

- Lets see the result of this action by the four lepers

## **2 Kings 7:5-9**

<sup>5</sup> And they rose at twilight to go to the camp of the Syrians; and when they had come to the outskirts of the Syrian camp, to their surprise no one was there. <sup>6</sup> For the Lord had caused the army of the Syrians to hear the noise of chariots and the noise of horses-the noise of a great army; so they said to one another, "Look, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of the Egyptians to attack us!" <sup>7</sup> Therefore they arose and fled at twilight, and left the camp intact-their tents, their horses, and their donkeys-and they fled for their lives. <sup>8</sup> And when these lepers came to the outskirts of the camp, they went into one tent and ate and drank, and carried from it silver and gold and clothing, and went and hid them; then they came back and entered another tent, and carried some from there also, and went and hid it. <sup>9</sup> Then they said to one another, "We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent. If we wait until morning light, some punishment will come upon us. Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king's household."

- When they resolved in themselves to die fighting, their resolution attracted heaven – God used their resolution to bring about the word he had released through the mouth of His servant.
- God took over the situation and performed a supernatural act – a sound was heard and that is the sound of resolution.
- You can raise a sound of resolution today – God is attracted by your tenacity, your perseverance, your stubbornness towards your situation.
- The sound of resolution is heard when you choose to cooperate with the word of God
- God responds to the attitude of resolute/faith
  - David ran towards Goliath instead of running away from him – the uncircumcised Philistine
  - Joshua said as for me and my house hold we will serve the Lord
  - Esther saved the Jewish nation when she said if I perish I perish
  - Samuel resolved that he will not sin against God for not praying for the people of God
  - Daniel resolved in himself not defile himself with the king's delicacies