

## **SOVEREIGN SERENDIPITY: The Shunammite's Land Restored**

2 Kings 8:1-6

- I. **THE LORD DECREES** (1)—“The LORD has called for a famine”
  - A. **The LORD** (Ex 3:13-14)—the “I AM”
    1. **The First Cause** (Am 3:6)—the planner and designer
      - a. **The Author of the Plan**—the *Authority*
      - b. **The Power to Make It Happen**—the *Ability*
    2. **The Covenant Name**—told to Moses at the Burning Bush
      - a. **Relational**—promise made *to a person or people*
      - b. **Faithful**—the God who *keeps* His promises
  - B. **Has Decreed** (Isa 45:7)— the Almighty Sovereign who commands nature and time
  - C. **The Famine** (Job 2:10)—usually a punishment for the sin of the nation
    1. **Nothing can separate us from God's love.** (Rom 8:28; 35-39)
    2. **Even in times of judgment, God is working for the good of His people.** (Jer 29:11)
  - D. **The Prophet** (Am 3:7)—*Inside information*
    1. **The state of the nation**—Elisha warned the king of the plans of his enemies
    2. **The condition of individuals** (Ps 33:18-19)—Elisha warned the woman
      - ➔ **God's ability to multitask**—punish wicked **and** preserve righteous (2 Pet 2:9; Prov 15:25)

E. **The Friend of the Prophet** (Gen 12:3)—

1. God rewards those who bless His servants. (Mat 10:41-42; 25:40)
2. Friendship with God's people places us under God's special protection. (Gen 19:29; Ps 14:5; Mat 18:20)
3. Prophecy of the future is not to scare us but to prepare us.

II. **THE LORD REMEMBERS** (4)—“The king was talking with Gehazi”

A. God's memory is perfect. (Ex 20:5-6; Ps 56:8)

1. The LORD never forgets a kindness done to one of His people. (Mat 10:42; Heb 6:10)
2. The only thing God forgets is the sin of those He has forgiven. (Isa 43:25; Jer 31:34; Heb 10:17)

B. God's reward is priceless. (Isa 49:4)

1. Is certain (Deut 32:34-35/Rom 12:19;)
2. Is far greater than any sacrifice we make (Mk 10:29)
3. Is paid in this life and in eternity (Mk 10:29)

III. **THE LORD RESTORES** (6; Joel 2:25)—“Restore all that was hers”

- A. The years of sojourning—temporary stay, life disrupted
- B. The time you think was lost—before salvation, years your sin destroyed,
- C. The income, assets, and properties you forfeited
- D. The relationships you lost