

Partial Victories

Avoiding the Passivity Trap

Pastor Carl Toti

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2 Kings 13:14-20 (NKJV)

14 Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!" 15 And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and some arrows." So he took himself a bow and some arrows. 16 Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." So he put his hand on it, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. 17 And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the LORD'S deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed them." 18 Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. 19 And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it! But now you will strike Syria only three times." 20 Then Elisha died, and they buried him. And the raiding bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year.

Psalms 78:41 (NKJV)

41 Yes, again and again they tempted God, And limited the Holy One of Israel.

THE ARROWS OF GOD'S DELIVERANCE

1. PRAYER

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NKJV) "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

A man who is intimate with God will never be intimidated by men. At the judgment seat, the most embarrassing thing the believer will face will be the smallness of his praying. –Leonard Ravenhill

2. TRUTH

John 8:32 (NKJV) "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

"People cannot change truth, but truth can change people." –Unknown

3. ACTION

James 2:17 (AMP) "So also faith, if it does not have works (deeds and actions of obedience to back it up), by itself is destitute of power (inoperative, dead)."

"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

FOUR TYPES OF GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES

- 1) **God alone as an authority with the authority of Caesar denied.**
 - 2) **Caesar alone as an authority with the authority of God denied.**
 - 3) **The authority of both God and Caesar but with Caesar in the dominant position.**
 - 4) **The authority of God and Caesar but with God in the dominant position.**
- Dr. James Montgomery Boice**