Breaking Free From Containment: 7

Break Forth To The Right & Left

Isaiah 54.1-3

The word *containment* means to 'control or prevent something from moving, increasing or extending'

So far from these verses we have seen that:

- we need to make room for God to work in our lives;
- we must conform to His will and not expect God to conform to ours.
- we have to keep our dreams and visions alive by stretching back over our calling, and the promises of God by rehearsing and meditating what God has spoken to us
- we must not become content with our lot or get used to things the way they are but rather expect them to change
- we must not have a poverty mentality
- we must have a generous nature
- increase our vision, look beyond the place where we are at, reach further and wider
- we must not worry double-mindedness, which is unstable
- hope (confident expectation) is the anchor of our soul

The next phrase of these verses is found in v3 "You shall expand to the right and to the left"

The Hebrew word pârats in this verse is translated as expand in the NKJV.

extend – TEV spread out – NIV; NCV; NAS; RSV; make wide – BBE AMP; REB break out – NEB break-forth (AV)

pârats – means to 'break out; break forth; break through; breach; burst; increase, disperse and scatter'

This word is used in the Bible in reference to the waters of a river that breaks forth on the right and left during time of flood.

Joshua 3.15

The Jordan overflows all it's banks during the whole time of harvest.

In Bible lands the flood was essential to the life and prosperity of the regions around the rivers – no flood meant no food, a time of famine.

- The flood waters brought in silt to fertilise the land for the growing of crops.
- Essential for transportation

The ancient Egyptians used to watch the water levels carefully – Nilometers along the banks of the Nile to measure the water levels and so predict the extent of the flood waters,

so that they could prepare for action

The context of our theme verse is about breaking forth into action to possess and inhabit the desolate cities or a inheritance.

2 Samuel 5.17-20

The Philistines come up against David and his men.

David enquires of God – shall I pursue and go up against them?

David won the victory and gave all glory to God - "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water"

Isaiah 59.19

raise the standard – military term to lift up the colours for battle array. The Hebrew literal meaning of this term is "to put to flight or drive hastily"

"when the enemy comes in; like a flood the Spirit of God [will put him to flight]"

Mark 5.25-34

For twelve years this woman had been:

- contained by the affliction/sickness she was kept in bondage to it. Another woman in Scripture of whom Jesus said 'satan has kept her bound in her affliction for eighteen years' (Luke 13.16)
- contained in her mental processes she constantly thought about her condition, kept in torment.
- contained in her wealth it prevented her from prospering as she spent all on seeking help
- contained in her social activities she was unclean and had to keep separated, kept in a state of hellish isolation

She heard about Jesus, the Lord of the Breakthrough, and purposed to do whatever it took to get to Jesus and touch His clothes

She came to the flood – not of water but of people – she broke through every obstacle and hindrance; every doubt and fear; every feeling of self-unworthiness, shame and uncleanliness

She did as she had purposed in her heart and touched Jesus – healed instantly and set free from containment.

Sick of the palsy (Mark 2.1-4) - another man contained by affliction - brought to Jesus by his friends.

There was a flood of people around the house so they could not get close. Undeterred they went up on the roof and "broke through" and lowered the sick man at Jesus feet.

- To break free from containment we need to break forth into action and come against the thing that contains us.
- The Spirit of God will go before us and drive out the enemy like a flood of waters.