BLESSED INVENTORY

What hast thou in thou in the house? II Kings 4:2

Our passage relates to a widow whose husband had been one of the sons of the prophets. Following his death someone who they had owed money to came to call in the loan. When they did not have the money to pay the creditor was planning to take the widows two sons as servants until the debt was paid. Already devastated over the loss of her husband now the dear woman was facing the thought of this man taking her sons. She was about to lose the sons she loved and also her way of keeping what little she had.

Her husband had left her a very valuable thing. It wasn’t money for she had none. It wasn’t material belongings because she did not have any of that either, rather he had left behind the ability to call upon the Lord. She goes to the man of God who was Elisha, and pours out her problem. He encourages her to take inventory of what she had in her house. It did not take long and her list was quite short. She had one pot of oil. From that one pot of oil, her faith in God and obedience to him she was able to pay all her debt and she and her two sons were able to continue living. Read this amazing story (II Kings 4:1-7).

Though it seems we may not have much in the eyes of this world it is often so awesome what we do have. The woman of Zarephath may have never seen more than a handful of meal in the bottom of the barrel but what a handful it was! It fed her and her son all their days. If ever a visitor happened along it was enough to care for ever how many she had to feed. Consider Moses and his meeting with God in the desert. “What is that in your hand?” To Moses and his inventory calculations he had only a rod, yet God used Moses rod to challenge Pharaoh, part the Red Sea and lead the children of Israel through the wilderness! You also might want to think of the Prodigal Son. If he was keeping inventory his ledger of assets were getting shorter and shorter every day after leaving home until finally he wakes up one morning and opens the book to find there is nothing, absolutely zero, left. After pondering for a while he remembers something that he had never written in his book of cherished treasures, his Father. Way back over there where he had come from was his Father. It might not seem like much too all his leach like friends but this would prove to be priceless to the starving son. It was blessed inventory!

It is amazing but God uses small sometimes insignificant things to bring glory to himself and help to those he loves. Whatever it is you have, let him use it all to help you and bless others. How true! that when you find that God is all you have, you will also find he is all you need.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram