

## BLESS WHEN YOU ARE CURSED.

**2 Samuel 16:5-13 ( NKJV )** <sup>5</sup>Now when King David came to Bahurim, there was a man from the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei the son of Gera, coming from there. He came out, cursing continuously as he came. <sup>6</sup>And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David. And all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. <sup>7</sup>Also Shimei said thus when he cursed: "Come out! Come out! You bloodthirsty man, you rogue! <sup>8</sup>The LORD has brought upon you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and the LORD has delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. So now you *are caught* in your own evil, because you are a bloodthirsty man!" <sup>9</sup>Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me go over and take off his head!" <sup>10</sup>But the king said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? So let him curse, because the LORD has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?'" <sup>11</sup>And David said to Abishai and all his servants, "See how my son who came from my own body seeks my life. How much more now *may this* Benjamite? Let him alone, and let him curse; for so the LORD has ordered him. <sup>12</sup>It may be that the LORD will look on ~~£~~my affliction, and that the LORD will repay me with good for his cursing this day." <sup>13</sup>And as David and his men went along the road, Shimei went along the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went, threw stones at him and kicked up dust.

This is a continuous meditation of yesterday's thought. This above passage is one of the most moving encounters between a King and a commoner. The only twist here is that the King is cursed by the commoner.

David had seen it all. He had established Israel's Golden Reign. He subdued all the enemies around him. He was at the height of his glory. Then the downward spiral started. He sinned consequently, his very own son turned against him.

Absalom not only revolted against his father, he with the support of some, proclaimed himself as King even when David was alive. David now is running for life. His heart was torn because he had to flee from the presence of God. He does not allow the priests to carry it with him, but commands them to take it back to Israel.

David is thus walking barefoot, humiliated crushed and exhausted. At this moment Shimei An ordinary citizen, starts to rail against David , throwing sand and stones at David the anointed King of Israel. The whole entourage of David is shocked beyond words. How did Shimei dare to curse David, not only curse, he also throws sand and stones.

Living in South India, we know the enormity of the action when someone curses along with throwing sand. This would be dreaded by those who believe in curses.

But it is here we see, David's godliness shining forth. His commander Abishai is too shocked and he almost pulled out his sword to cut off Shimei's head, calling him as a dead dog.

But surprisingly, David is angry with Abishai and not with Shimei. With such maturity and spiritual candour, David tells, "So let him curse, because the LORD has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?'" With a slight nod of his head, David could have seen him dead, dead as a dog. But he keeps walking quietly and Shimei walks after him, cursing continuously.

David looking back at his event filled life, knew that even a word of insult will not reach his heart if the Lord had not allowed it. He knew it was the test of God in his life. He chose to keep quiet and look inward.

But he takes that curse to the Lord and says that the Lord can turn this curse to good. What a response to such a great humiliation!

This is so Christ like. David accepts Shimei's curse and takes it to the Lord, saying the Lord may turn this to good. Sure enough the Lord did turn the curse for good.

When David returned the same road to Jerusalem to be the King again, he forgave Shimei who fell at his feet. But Solomon weeded him out later.

Sometimes those who are cursed are not always cursed and those who curse others do not always curse.

In His time the Lord knows to turn the cursed into blessed.

Do not curse when you are cursed, but take it to the Lord. He will turn your curse into a blessing.