

Disaster Like A Flood

Written by

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Isaiah 59:19

“So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and His glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him”

On the 25 January 1981 abnormal rainfall in the catchments of both the Buffels and Baviaans Rivers, which have their confluence at the town, lead to a giant flood that came from nowhere and surprised the people of Laingsburg , over 100 persons drowned. Most of the bodies were never recovered; even the railway line was swept off the bridge. Many people lost their jobs as farms were forced to close due to the devastation.

This was the 1st flood in over hundred years in this district of South Africa , If you look at the photos that was taken after the flood came through , almost the hall town was in ruins and despair, it looked like someone bulldozed over it.

Laingsburg was first established in the 1870s by Stephanus Greeff. He bought the farm Vischkuil-aan-de-Buffelsrivier (fishing pond on the Buffalo River). The town only started developing when the railway line to it was completed. It was first named Buffelsrivier but this was later changed first to Nassau and finally to Laingsburg, after John Laing who was Commissioner of Crown Lands at the time. The town was laid out in 1881 and became a municipality in 1904. The municipality has since been expanded to include Bergsig, Golderneville and Matjiesfontein.

I know in our own lives that sometimes life can come like a flood into our lives unexpectedly, and wipe out everything we loved, when it came through all that was left was the ruins of the

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buildings. If this happens we feel hopeless and powerless, we don't know where to start or were to pick up the pieces. But there are hope , I know about a great architect who can build up and restore any city from the ground up , He will lay down His foundation and will start to build the new city on His foundation.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid,which is Jesus Christ."1 Corinthians 3:11, KJV"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone;"Ephesians 2:19-20, KJV"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,"1 Peter 2:6-7, KJV"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner."Acts 4:11, KJV"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock [Jesus referring to Himself and NOT to Peter] I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."Matthew 16:18, KJV"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."1 Corinthians 10:4, KJV"Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures,

The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?...And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder. And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them."Matthew 21:42, 44-45, KJV"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces...And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

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"Daniel 2:34, 44, KJV"Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."Psalms 2:6-9, KJV The city He builds will be stronger, prettier and much much better as the one that was destroyed. This architect name is Jesus Christ, like that scripture says at the beginning of this devotional, the enemy may catch you of guard with his flood but the Lord comes and put a standard higher than Him.

Back to Laingsburg, everybody thought that this town will never regain its prestige or will never stand up again, after this big flood. Now plus minus 30 years later, the town has become a city and what once were just ruins were rebuilt and the city now looks better than ever before. What everybody thought had destroyed the city actually was turned around and placed Laingsburg on the map. So you see dear reader what the enemy thought he had used to destroy you or your marriage or family, the Lord will use for His good and will turn things around for good, the Lord will vindicate you and will re establish your family.

I know that sometimes things may look hopeless around you, but remember were hopelessness abound, put your hope in God, He will never ever leave you nor forsake you, stay in His love and in due time your ruins will be rebuilt before your very eyes, have faith God is always near. Ezekiel 36:33 - 36:33 " 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. 34 The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. 35 They will say, "This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited." 36 Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it. Always believe in His mighty power