

Hello! This is Dorothy -

You might ask, "Are all the prophetesses mentioned only in the Old Testament?" We have been reflecting on five mentioned prophetesses: one of them was in the **Book of Nehemiah**, which spoke of Noadiah; another was Huldah, which is in **2 Chronicles** and **2 Kings**; and then Miriam in the **Book of Exodus**. There is one I want to speak of today and her name is Anna. She is declared a prophetess in the Word of God in **Luke chapter 2, beginning with verse 36.**

36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age . . . - now that is helpful for some of us who are getting up there - . . . and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity;

37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years. . . - that is like eighty-four years a widow - . . . which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. This is what we call the adoration of Anna. This is a most remarkable prophetess. As you gather, she was a widow and she was very old, but she used her days.

It makes me think of a couple of friends that I have in my own neighborhood. They lost their husbands and they were not very young when they lost them, but they said, *Now Lord, what about the rest of our lives? How do we serve you with the rest of our lives?* I don't know how you are facing your difficulty. Perhaps you are in that position that you lost your husband and you feel, "Oh, God has let me down! I do not have provisions. How am I going to manage?" And we break our heart. But in Christ Jesus, we can turn around and say, *Now Lord, this is the rest of my life. Do in me what You want to do.*

This lady, Anna, would spend her time in fasting and prayers. As she did so, that would mean she would have taken the Word of God. She would have known the Word of God and, as she knew the Word of God, she knew what she was looking for. She was looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. In other words, all the way through the Scriptures, we have promised the coming of the Messiah. Yeshua! The Lord Jesus! She was looking for this as all the signs were there. Some of us who look back to the Cross realize we are looking for His coming again. All the signs point to it and prophecy is tremendously important in Scripture. If you took out prophecy from the Scriptures, you would not have very many pages left, because the Word of God is all about the Lord Jesus and prophecy is through the Word of God.

And here she was, this amazing woman, looking, looking for the

redemption. We want to praise the Lord for everybody who listens who is older perhaps, and not well accepted perhaps, or a person around the town or the village, wherever we are living, to see that God has given us while we are on planet earth the awesome joy of looking and speaking about the Lord! We are looking for His coming. I look every day for the coming of the Lord. With great expectation, I anticipate His coming and in the meantime, I want to be available. So perhaps I am awake and I have some pain or something awakens me in the night, I use that time to pray. I see that is the time to focus not upon what is going on in my body, but to focus on what is going on in the Body of the Lord Jesus: to see the lands that are needing us to pray for them; to see the people who perhaps are suffering for Christ and who do not know how to get the bread to put in their child's mouth; to see those who are desperate for water; but most of all, to see the great famine of the Word in many parts of the world where the Word of God is not freely in the hands of the people. That is why with this little broadcast, we endeavor to always use the Word of God. We want to encourage you to love the Word.

We want to encourage you to be as Anna and to spend time in fasting and prayer. But you say, "What does it mean: to fast? I am in a position that I have enough jobs to get through in the day and I need all my energy." What it really means - the whole idea behind it - is putting aside that which is pleasurable for myself in the indulgence of

going beyond and having those things. Sometimes to fast is just to eat the basic requirement to get through the day, but to give of yourself to the work. Many a person in the work of the Lord find that they have gone a whole day and did not realize they were fasting, because they were involved in what God is doing. Therefore, their minds have been upon this and they didn't even realize they didn't stop to think about eating, because through the day they were praising and praying for others.

Would you take on yourself to pray for the family of God? It is an extended family that goes around the world. Will you start to be those who apply the Word of God to these situations? Take the promises of God and what you read day by day, and pray for the situation with that Word, that those things which come forth will bring liberty and life and encouragement. Will you be an Anna? Will you take upon yourself that wonderful joy of saying, *I am looking for Him, my Lord Jesus to come soon! And I want to be found with that adoration and anticipation in my heart.*

In Jesus' precious Name. Amen.