



1 Kings 17:7-16

“The End of the Road Brook”

⁷ And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land. ⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁹ “Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell **there**. See, I have commanded a widow **there** to provide for you.” ¹⁰ So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow *was* **there** gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.” ¹¹ And as she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹² So she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I *am* gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” ¹³ And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go *and* do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring *it* to me; and afterward make *some* for yourself and your son.” ¹⁴ For thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.’ ” ¹⁵ So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for *many* days. ¹⁶ The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah.

Consider the circumstances of life.

⁷ And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

Why would God have led him to a place where the water would dry up?

The brook dried up OH NO!!!!

Declining health, diminishing business, or decreasing friendships. A sudden, unexpected trauma.

One of the greatest lessons we can ever learn in life is this point I am going to tell you. Listen, this is it:

TRUST GOD AT ALL TIMES REGARDLESS OF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES.

Are we fair-weather Christians?

We see the Word of God being presented, the obedience to the Word of God and the result of the obedience. FAITH!

□ GOD

His timing- demonstrates his care, guidance and protection.

He always works at both ends of the line

Examples- Jonah and the whale

David and Goliath

Jacob's sons going to Joseph for food

Israel's spies and Rahab

Mordecai and sleepless Ahasuerus

Ethiopian eunuch and Philip

Cornelius is praying and Peter shows up

His telling- demonstrates his personal connection and direction.

Undesigned Coincidences in the Old and New Testament- J. J. Blunt

He points us that the division of Canaan the district of Zidon fell to the lot of of Asher, Joshua 19:28. Then he turns the reader back to Deuteronomy 33, reminding him that when Moses blessed the 12 tribes of Israel he said, "Let Asher be blessed with children; let him be acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil, v 24 indicating the fertility of that district and the character of it's principal product. Thus, after a long spell of famine, oil was most likely to be found there.

Thus saith the LORD!

.⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁹“Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”

□ ELIJAH

His reception

He did not allow himself to be dictated to by circumstances, but waited for a word from the Lord before he moved.

As believers in Christ, we are no different. We are all at different levels on this ascending scale. For some, the need for physical and emotional security is greater than for others. In a person such as Elijah, these basic needs had been met, and he used the solitude of Cherith to quicken and deepen his Godward relationship.

Make sure you are hearing God!

If you are not sure, keep waiting as you develop your relationship with God.

III. Track meet- **Don't go early**

Zarephath in **Sidon** was on the coast was a journey of about 100 miles. Furthermore it was a Gentile city which would be a challenge to Elijah. It is no accident that **Sidon** was the home country of Jezebel ([1 Kings 16:31](#)) and was the heart of Baal worship. As we discover in subsequent passages **Sidon** was also suffering from the divine drought that afflicted Israel for their worship of Baal.

1 Samuel 13:12- ¹¹ And Samuel said, “What have you done?”

Saul said, “When I saw that the people were scattered from me, and *that* you did not come within the days appointed, and *that* the Philistines gathered together at Michmash, ¹² then I said, ‘The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication to the Lord.’ Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering.”

The most important place that you and I need to be is the place that God has chosen as our “there”.

1. There Is Where He Personally Abides
2. There Is Where He Powerfully Provides
3. There Is Where He Privately Confides

His response

¹⁰ So he arose and went to Zarephath.

Numbers 9- ¹⁸ At the command of the Lord the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the Lord they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped. ¹⁹ Even when the cloud continued long, many days above the tabernacle, the children of Israel kept the charge of the Lord and did not journey. ²⁰ So it was, when the cloud was above the tabernacle a few days: according to the command of the Lord they would remain encamped, and according to the command of the Lord they would journey. ²¹ So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey. ²² *Whether it was two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey.* ²³ At the command of the Lord they remained encamped, and at the command of the Lord they journeyed; they kept the charge of the Lord, at the command of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

*When God sends us, we must obey and leave the rest to Him,
for we don't live on man's explanations—we live on God's promises.*
-- Warren Wiersbe

Cultivate the holy habit of seeing the hand of God in everything that happens to you.

Ezekiel 33: ³⁰ “As for you, son of man, the children of your people are talking about you beside the walls and in the doors of the houses; and they speak to one another, everyone saying to his brother, ‘Please come and hear what the word is that comes from the Lord.’” ³¹ So they come to you as people do, they sit before you *as My people*, and they hear your words, but they do not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, *but* their hearts pursue their *own* gain. ³² Indeed you *are* to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they do not do them. ³³ And when this comes to pass—surely it will come—then they will know that a prophet has been among them.”

Isaiah 41:10- Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

What is so much needed by us is service to Christ, submission to his yoke, surrender to his will, subjection to his commandments. Any Christian service other than walking in his precepts is a human invention, fleshly energy.

Psalms 19:11- Moreover by them Your servant is warned,
And in keeping them *there is* great reward.

□ THE WIDOW

The scarcity



Zarephath means- “smelting place; refinery”

Jesus references her in Luke 4:25-26- ²⁵ But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; ²⁶ but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman *who was a widow*.

God’s mercy to and inclusion of the Gentiles

Similar to the story of the woman at the well

Singled out by God- she wasn’t being cared for plus she had to care for her son

III. Walking around the walls of Jericho- Naaman’s leprosy

The surplus

Came as a result of her obedience

Divinely appointed destination

God changes circumstances quickly

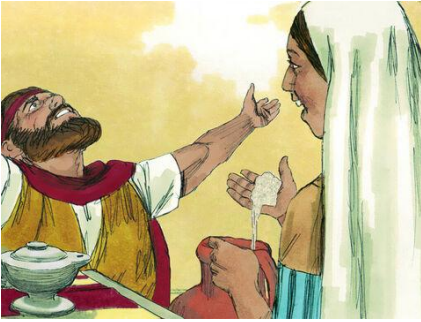
The will of God will never lead us
where the grace of God cannot keep us and care for us!

Romans 4:18 John 6:9 5 loaves and 2 fish- what are they among so many?

“Make the men sit down”

"Because of our proneness to look at the bucket and forget the fountain, God has frequently to change His means of supply to keep our eyes fixed on the source."

She was to exercise obedient faith first, and then her needs would be supplied. Many try to reverse this order
-- Spurgeon



Every morning was a fresh episode of the faithfulness of Yahweh to his promise. He had not said 'the jar of meal will overflow' but only that it 'will never come to an end.'

Spurgeon - "Why did not God give her a granary full of meal at once, and a vat full of oil instantly? I will tell you. It was not merely because of God's intent to try her, but there was wisdom here. Suppose he had given her a granary full of meal, how much of it would have been left by the next day? I question whether any would have remained, for in days of famine men are sharp of scent, and it would soon have been noised about the city, 'The old widow woman who lives in such-and-such a street, has a great store of food.' Why, they would have caused a riot, and robbed the house, and perhaps, have killed the woman and her son. She would have been despoiled of her treasure, and in four and twenty hours the barrel of meal would have been as empty as it was at first, and the cruse of oil would have been spilled upon the ground."

Is God's holy Word your "daily bread," the Source of your confidence and hope?

In biblical study, a type is an Old Testament person, event, or object that God designed to foreshadow a future truth. An antitype is the New Testament reality or fulfillment of that shadow. Together, they form typology, which shows how God's redemptive plan connects the Old and New Testaments

Type of Jesus and the Holy Spirit

We do not need to fear!! Matthew 6:33; Psalm 34:9; 84:11

It is simpler to be reminded of God's promises rather than to rely on God's promises.

The unimpeachable veracity, unchanging faithfulness and almighty power of God to make good His Word, is the impregnable foundation on which faith may securely rest.

