

1 Kings 17 Elijah Predicts Drought
Hope its a blessing
Paul

Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall certainly be neither dew nor rain during these years, except by my word." 2 Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 3 "Go away from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.

4 And it shall be that you will drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to provide food for you there." 5 So he went and did everything according to the word of the LORD, for he went and lived by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. 6 And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he would drink from the brook. 7 But it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there was 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 stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide food for you." 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the entrance of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, "Please get me a little water in a cup, so that I may drink."

11 As she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand." 12 But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have no food, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks so that I may go in and prepare it for me and my son, so that we may eat it and die."

13 However, Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go, do as you have said. Just make me a little bread loaf from it first and bring it out to me, and afterward you may make one for yourself and for your son. 14 For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel says: 'The bowl of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil become empty, until the day that the LORD provides rain on the face of the earth.'"

15 So she went and did everything in accordance with the word of Elijah, and she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The bowl of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil become empty, in accordance with the word of the LORD which He spoke through Elijah.

Elijah Raises the Widow's Son

17 Now it happened after these things that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick; and his condition became very grave, until at the end he was no longer breathing. 18 So she said to Elijah, "Why is my business any of yours, you man of God? Yet you have come to me to bring my wrongdoing to remembrance, and to put my son to death!"

19 But he said to her, "Give me your son." Then he took him from her arms and carried him up to the upstairs room where he was living, and laid him on his own bed. 20 And he called to the LORD and said, "LORD, my God, have You also brought catastrophe upon the widow with whom I am staying, by causing her son to

die?" 21 Then he stretched himself out over the boy three times, and called to the LORD and said, "LORD, my God, please, let this boy's life return to him."

22 And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah, and the life of the boy returned to him and he revived. 23 Elijah then took the boy and brought him down from the upstairs room into the house and gave him to his mother; and Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." 24 Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth."

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

- What questions were provoked within you?
- Did anything confuse you?
- Did anything move you emotionally?
- Did God instruct you to do something?
- Did you gain any insight into God's character

Paul's observations and insight

1. Can you imagine being given so much authority that you could even stop the rain?
2. Why do people feel the need to authenticate their actions with a name more consistent than their own?
3. Elijah says, 'as the Lord the God of Israel lives'.
4. Elijah heard the instructions of God, but what part of him actually heard?
5. Do you think it a strange thing for the Lord to say to Elijah?
6. God was making provision for his servant during a famine.
7. Why would the Ravens obey God's voice, but human beings don't?
8. Notice, Elijah did everything that he had been instructed to do,
9. How did Elijah feel when the brook dried up?
10. God speaks to Elijah again – 'He came to him saying'
11. Did the widow know, God had chosen her to be the provision to feed Elijah?
12. Did Elijah know, the woman gathering sticks, was the widow who would provide food for him?
13. What does the word 'behold' mean to you?
14. Why did Elijah ask for water and why does the widow go and fetch it for him?
15. Did he see the bread in her hand, or could he see the bread with the eyes of faith?
16. The woman was preparing her last meal for herself and her son.
17. Would you have given someone else your last meal?
18. Why did he say, 'do not fear' to the woman?
19. Was it so important that the woman should serve Elijah first?
20. Elijah gives the woman a word from the Lord for her to potentially, send her faith off to work.
21. What would you have done with a word like this?
22. The woman obeys Elijah in everything and as a result she was blessed.
23. What God says always comes to pass!
24. Affliction comes upon the household of the woman and the son dies.
25. Do you think she might have expected protection, seeing as she had served God's servant faithfully?
26. Death is when you stop breathing and this son of hers was dead!
27. Why did she say, 'my business is my own, man of God'?
28. Had she questions herself as to, if he was in fact a prophet and a man of God?

29. The woman's presumption, regarding her son's death, was that she was being punished for her sin.
30. That's her wrong doings in the sight of God, was she correct?
31. Why do people blame God when they experience catastrophe?
32. Why did Elijah say to the woman, 'give me your son'.
33. Did Elijah also think God was instrumental in the death of the boy?
34. Why did he go to his own room when ministering to the dead boy?
35. Elijah asked God the question, as if the son had in fact, died on account of God's hand.
36. Did Elijah get an answer to the question that he had asked God?
37. Why did he lay on the boy three times?
38. Why did he not speak life back into the boy?
39. Why did he plead for the life of the boy to God?
40. If life leaves the body, it also must return to the body, and in this boy's case0 it did.
41. Only when life returned did the boy revive.
42. What was the boy's mother doing downstairs when Elijah was ministering?
43. How did she feel when Elijah brought her son back to her alive?
44. Elijah says, 'see with your eyes, your son he is alive!'
45. She declares, 'you are a man of God.'
46. She declares, 'the words in your mouth are truth.'
47. How do we get this level of conviction and authority working in us?
48. How can we avoid being perverse of speech? It undermines our credibility regarding the things we say.