

Praying for God's JUDGMENT ~ 1 Kings 17:1-24

→ Scripture Reading - James 5:16-18, Deut. 11:16-17

INTRODUCTION

The Role of PROPHETS was to... Bibleproject

- SPEAK out For God
- be Covenant WATCHDOGS
- Point out IDOLATRY and INJUSTICE
- Challenge Israel to REPENT and FOLLOW God
- Remind Israel they were to be the LIGHT to the Nations

Elijah the prophet served from around 875 - 855 BC

Elijah the PRAYING Prophet ~ 1 Kings 17:1-5

James 5:16-17 (NIV) ¹⁶...The prayer of a RIGHTEOUS man is powerful and effective. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.

Deuteronomy 11:17 (NIV) Then the LORD's anger will burn against you, and He will SHUT the HEAVENS so that it will NOT RAIN and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you.

¹ Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

ELIJAH- MY God is YAHWEH

LORD- YAHWEH, the proper Name of the God of Israel

² Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ³ **Leave here**, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴ You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there." ⁵ So **he DID** what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. ⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

→ MAP x2

IMPLICATION

James 5:16-17 (NIV) ¹⁶...The prayer of a RIGHTEOUS man is powerful and effective. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.

Deut. 11:17 ...the LORD's anger will burn against you, and He will SHUT the HEAVENS so that it will NOT RAIN and the ground will yield no produce...

Elijah's PAYER

- he was WALKED with God
- he Prayed EARNESTLY
- he prayed EXPECTANTLY
- he prayed PERSISTENTLY he never QUIT
- Willing to be PART of the answer

AUDACIOUS Request ~ 1 Kings 17:7-15

⁷ Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. ⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to him: ⁹ "Go AT ONCE to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food."

→ Map

¹⁰ So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread." ¹² As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread - only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it - and die." ¹³ Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But FIRST make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son." ¹⁴ For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry UNTIL the day the LORD gives rain on the land.' ¹⁵ She went away and DID as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of FLOUR was NOT used up and the jug of OIL did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

IMPLICATION

¹⁵ She went away and DID as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day...

¹⁶ For the jar of FLOUR was NOT used up and the jug of OIL did not run dry

She had been called to risk her last meal and to TRUST the promise of a "foreign God." But she went away and DID as Elijah had told her. HOTC

God was consistently faithful, meeting the need just in time every day. The widow and her son and Elijah were forced to RELY on the PROVIDER, NOT the provision. In the process God revealed that He alone, and NOT Baal, was the Sovereign Lord of ALL. HOTC

God's Amazing Grace ~ 1 Kings 17:16-24

¹⁷ Some time later the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. He grew worse and worse, and finally stopped breathing. ¹⁸ She said to Elijah, "What do you have against me, man of God? Did you come to remind me of my sin and kill my son?" ¹⁹ "Give me your son," Elijah replied. He took him from her arms, carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his bed. ²⁰ Then he cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you brought tragedy also upon this widow I am staying with, by causing her son to die?" ²¹ Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this boy's life return to him!"

In the heart of Baal territory, God had displayed His unsurpassed power. HOTC

²² The LORD heard Elijah's cry, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived. ²³ Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, "Look, 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 from your mouth IS the Truth."

TAKE AWAY ??

² Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ³ Leave here, turn eastward and HIDE in the Kerith Ravine, East of the Jordan. ⁴ You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you...

⁹ Go at ONCE to Zarephath of Sidon and STAY THERE. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food.

One Day at a Time - DEPENDING on God's Strength.

It was a place of TOTAL Dependence upon God, and the Lord demonstrated HIS sufficiency by providing food and water for Elijah. HOTC