Elijah/Elisha: Daring Dudes in Dark Days Pastor Rick Baker

May 30 2021

**Surviving a Resource’s Stress Test**

1 Kings 17:8-24

When the brook dries up, the flour pot is almost empty, the cooking oil is down to the drags, and a life-threatening illness lands in the family...

*“...****the brook dried up*** *because there had been no rain...”*

**Two Lessons Loom Large through the story of the Widow of Zarephath**

1. **The Bankruptcy of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**—faith in the limited/finite/created is absurd.
2. **The Riches of Robust \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**—faith in the life-giving Infinite God.

* Material can’t help you when material is your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—**God actually can help** you when God has caused material to be the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

“If YOU try to save your life, you will lose it.” (Jesus, Matt. 16:25)

* Those relying on material must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for any semblance of security—**God doesn’t need** a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and we only need sufficient.

Insecure accumulation versus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tempts people into the arms of different gods even while claiming allegiance to the true God.

* Material things can’t personally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to anything—**God can hear** the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of your heart.
* Material can’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ anything and certainly can’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allegiance beyond its on limitations—**God** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ faithful allegiance with His limitless \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Faith, not in the provisions, but in the Provider and an indomitable conviction that the Lord is the God of the living and the dead, of plenty and famine, of rain and drought, of Jew and Gentile.

“Now I know... that **the word of the LORD**... is the truth” and Baal is not. Materialism is a religion of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ promises.