



In honor of [Constitution Day](#), I thought I'd share a free printable of **Ben Franklin's request for prayer at the Constitutional Convention back in 1787**. Addressing the President, he wisely observed:

**I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth — that God Governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that “except the Lord build the House they labour in vain that build it.” I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better, than the Builders of Babel: We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and bye word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing Governments by Human wisdom and leave it to chance, war and conquest.**

**I therefore beg leave to move — that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the Clergy of this City be requested to officiate in that Service.**

**Ben Franklin**



**Oh Lord,  
Open Our Eyes!**  
**Elisha**

# Bringing God Our 'Empty Vessels'

2 Kings 4:1-7

## Oh Lord, Open our eyes!

### Bringing God Our 'Empty Vessels'

2 Kings 4:1-7 -- The Provision of Oil and the Widows' Sons

Elisha asked for a double portion and then performed what many count (14/28) as exactly twice as many miracles, what does this mean?

The Miracles performed say something too? But what?

How does this text answer some other deep-seated questions?

What was the miracle in this passage [2 Kings 4:1-7](#) How is it similar/different to a miracle by Elijah? [1Kings 17:9-16](#), [Luke 4:26](#)

God has miraculously answered prayers but in almost always different ways, is there a lesson to this?

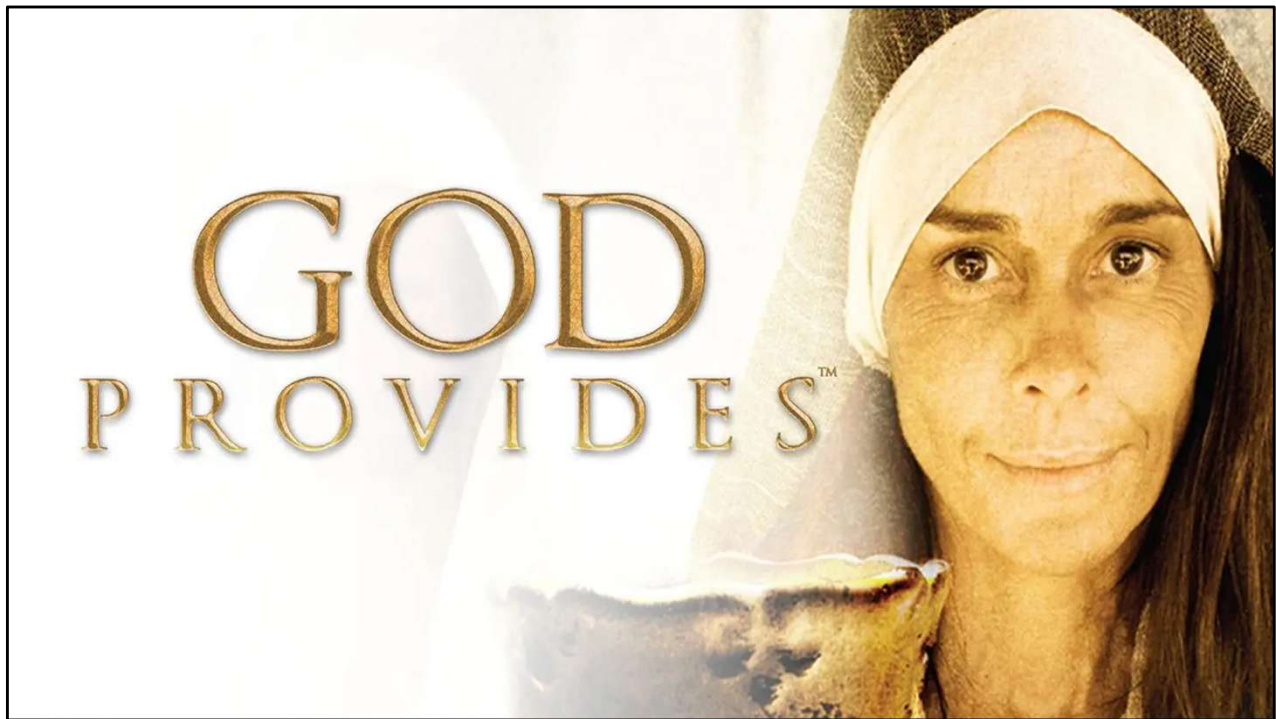
Does oil represent anything in the Bible?

Was there something specific about this family that invited the blessing?

Is there a symbolic point to the 'empty vessels'?

Has God ever done a miracle(s) for you? How did it impact you? Others?

Do you see any connection to Jesus and His miracles here?



## Miracle men!

- Elijah and Elisha were similar but different! 14/28
  - Miracles that instantly killed opponents!
  - Miracles that gave grace and help to desperate individuals
  - Both raised the Dead, Confronted Kings/Queens and ...
- Elijah's were *more* corporate, public and National, and Elisha's were *more* personal, private and local

Miracle men! Where do we all go when were desperate? When we need divine help?! Men of God

We can't cover ALL their miracles, Elijah had 14, Elisha 28!

Miracles are always about the message! The Prophets were authenticated by God, through miracles!

While Elisha was used of God to accomplish twice the miracles, it doesn't mean he was twice as good or important!

Elijah is the one who has a seat waiting for him at passover

Elijah is anticipated in the Lords return!

Elijah Was with Christ on Mt. of Transfiguration Mt.17, representing the Prophets!

Perhaps it simply shows that Elijah was meant to do a LOT more, until he resigned

Yet, Elishah raised a dead boy AND a Dead man! When he was dead!

[Heb 2:4 ESV] 4 while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and



**various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.**

[Mar 16:17-18 ESV] 17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

[Jhn 14:12 ESV] 12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

[Mar 16:20 ESV] 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.]]

[Jhn 15:26 ESV] 26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

[Act 5:12 ESV] 12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico.

[Act 14:3 ESV] 3 So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

[Act 15:4, 12 ESV] 4 When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. ... 12 And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul **as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles.**

[Act 19:11 ESV] 11 And **God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul,**

[Rom 15:18-19 ESV] 18 For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience--by word and deed, 19 **by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God--so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;**

[Eph 4:8, 11 ESV] 8 Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." ... 11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,

### **Elisha's Miracles**

1) **Parting of the Jordan** ([2 Kings 2:14](#))

2) **Healing of the waters** ([2 Kings 2:21](#))

3) **Curse of the she bears** ([2 Kings 2:24](#))

4) **Filling of the valley with water** ([2 Kings 3:17](#))

5) **Deception of the Moabites with the valley of blood** ([2 Kings 3:22](#))

6) **Miracle of the vessels of oil** ([2 Kings 4:4](#))

7) **Prophecy that the Shunammite woman would have a son** ([2 Kings 4:16](#))

8) **Resurrection of the Shunammite's son** ([2 Kings 4:34](#))

9) **Healing of the gourds** ([2 Kings 4:40-41](#))

- 10) Miracle of the bread ([2 Kings 4:43](#))
- 11) Healing of Naaman ([2 Kings 5:14](#))
- 12) Perception of Gehazi's transgression ([2 Kings 5:25-26](#))
- 13) Cursing Gehazi with leprosy ([2 Kings 5:27](#))
- 14) Floating of the axe head ([2 Kings 6:6](#))
- 15) Prophecy of the Syrian battle plans ([2 Kings 6:9](#))
- 16) Vision of the chariots ([2 Kings 6:17](#))
- 17) Smiting the Syrian army with blindness ([2 Kings 6:18](#))
- 18) Restoring the sight of the Syrian army ([2 Kings 6:20](#))
- 19) Prophecy of the end of the great famine ([2 Kings 7:1](#))
- 20) Prophecy of scoffing nobleman would see, not partake of, the abundance ([2 Kings 7:2](#))
- 21) Deception of the Syrians with the sound of chariots ([2 Kings 7:6](#))
- 22) Prophecy of the seven-year famine ([2 Kings 8:1](#))
- 23) Prophecy of Benhadad's untimely death ([2 Kings 8:10](#))
- 24) Prophecy of Hazael's cruelty to Israel ([2 Kings 8:12](#))
- 25) Prophecy that Jehu would smite the house of Ahab ([2 Kings 9:7](#))
- 26) Prophecy that Joash would smite the Syrians at Aphek ([2 Kings 13:17](#))
- 27) Prophecy that Joash would smite Syria thrice but not consume it ([2 Kings 13:19](#))
- 28) Resurrection of the man touched by his bones ([2 Kings 13:21](#))

### **Elijah's Miracles**

- 1) Causing the rain to cease for 3 1/2 years ([1 Kings 17:1](#))
- 2) Being fed by the ravens ([1 Kings 17:4](#))
- 3) Miracle of the barrel of meal and cruse of oil ([1 Kings 17:14](#))
- 4) Resurrection of the widow's son ([1 Kings 17:22](#))
- 5) Calling of fire from heaven on the altar ([1 Kings 18:38](#))
- 6) Causing it to rain ([1 Kings 18:45](#))
- 7) Prophecy that Ahab's sons would all be destroyed ([1 Kings 21:20-22](#), [29](#))
- 8) Prophecy that Jezebel would be eaten by dogs ([1 Kings 21:23](#))
- 9) Prophecy that Ahaziah would die of his illness ([2 Kings 1:4](#))
- 10) Calling fire from heaven upon the first 50 soldiers ([2 Kings 1:10](#))
- 11) Calling fire from heaven upon the second 50 soldiers ([2 Kings 1:12](#))
- 12) Parting of the Jordan ([2 Kings 2:8](#))
- 13) Prophecy that Elisha should have a double portion of his spirit ([2 Kings 2:10](#))
- 14) Being caught up to heaven in a whirlwind ([2 Kings 2:11](#))

**[Deu 29:4 ESV] 4 But to this day the LORD has not given you a heart to understand or eyes to see or ears to hear.**

**[Psa 34:15 ESV] 15** The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.

**[Isa 6:10 ESV] 10** Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

[Isa 11:3 ESV] 3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

**[Isa 35:5 ESV] 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;**

**[Jer 5:21 ESV] 21 "Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but see not, who have ears, but hear not.**

**[Eze 12:2 ESV] 2 "Son of man, you dwell in the midst of a rebellious house, who have eyes to see, but see not, who have ears to hear, but hear not, for they are a rebellious house.**

**[Mat 13:15-16 ESV] 15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.' 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.**

[Act 28:27 ESV] 27 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

[Rom 11:8 ESV] 8 as it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day."

[1Pe 3:12 ESV] 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."



## Miracle men!

- The Miracles are always about the message!
- Elijah's were more about hearing, Elisha's were about seeing!



### Similar Ministries

	Elijah	Elisha
Natural disaster	Pronounces a drought 1 Kings 17:1,7	Prophesies a famine 2 Kings 8:1
Miraculous food and water	Is fed by ravens and an angel 1 Kings 17:6; 19:3-8	Miraculously feeds others 2 Kings 2:19-22; 4:38-44
Care for a widow	Provides flour and oil for widow and her son 1 Kings 17:7-16	Fills widow's jar with oil 2 Kings 4:1-7
Raising of the dead	Prays and stretches himself on widow's dead son three times; boy's life returns 1 Kings 17:17-24	Prays and stretches himself on Shunammite's dead son two times; boy's life returns 2 Kings 4:32-37
Execution of God's judgment	Slaughters prophets of Baal 1 Kings 18:40	Calls down curse on unruly youths; 42 are mauled by bears 2 Kings 2:23-28
Prophecy for rain	Prays for rain and rain comes 1 Kings 18:41-45	Prophesies that water will fill ditches in the land; water flows from the land of Edom 2 Kings 3:14-20
Prediction of monarch's death	Prophesies the death of Jezebel 1 Kings 21:23; 2 Kings 9:30-37	Prophesies the murder of a king 2 Kings 8:10-15
Passage through the Jordan	Divides Jordan with cloak and walks through on dry ground 2 Kings 2:7-8	Strikes Jordan with cloak; it divides, and he crosses over on dry ground 2 Kings 2:13-14
Mysterious end of life	Goes to heaven in a whirlwind; a chariot and horses of fire appear 2 Kings 2:11	Dies and is buried; a dead man's body comes to life after touching his bones 2 Kings 13:20-21

# Jesus Raises the Son of a Widow

THE BIBLE

- Both parted the Jordan!
- Both pronounced drought/Famines! Ja.5! Effectual prayer of righteous men!
- Both cared for Widows!! 1Ki.17 Widow and son, Flour and Oil, 2Ki.4 Widow and 2 sons, Oil in borrowed jars!
- Both raised dead sons of the widows, Jesus raised widows son from Nain! 1Ki.17, 2Ki.4, Lk.7:11-17. 3 Res. From Elij and Elish, 3 by Jesus, 3 in NT, plus Jesus res. Total of 10
- Both called down Gods wrath: Prophets of Baal and disrespectful youths
- Both cursed royalty to death! Jezebel and King
- Both have mystery's around their 'death'?

[Luk 4:26 NLT] 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them. He was sent instead to a foreigner--a widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon.

[Luk 4:27 NLT] 27 And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, but the only one healed was Naaman, a Syrian."

Lk.7 Jesus heals dead son of the widow and Lazarus a grown man who feared the Lord with sisters in need

**[Luk 4:16, 21, 24-26 NLT]** 16 When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. ... 21 Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!" ... 24 But I tell you the truth, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown. 25 "Certainly there were many needy widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the heavens were closed for three and a half years, and a severe famine devastated the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them. He was sent instead to a foreigner--a widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon.

**[Exo 4:5, 8-9 ESV]** 5 "that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." ... 8 "If they will not believe you," God said, "or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. 9 If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground."

**[Mat 11:4-5 ESV]** 4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.

**[Mar 1:27 ESV]** 27 And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

**[Mat 13:54, 58 NLT]** 54 He returned to Nazareth, his hometown. When he taught there in the synagogue, everyone was amazed and said, "Where does he get this wisdom and the power to do miracles?" ... 58 And so he did only a few miracles there because of their unbelief.

**[Mat 14:2 NLT]** 2 he said to his advisers, "This must be John the Baptist raised from the dead! That is why he can do such miracles."

**[Mar 3:8 NLT]** 8 Jerusalem, Idumea, from east of the Jordan River, and even from as far north as Tyre and Sidon. The news about his miracles had spread far and wide, and vast numbers of people came to see him.

**[Mar 6:2 NLT]** 2 The next Sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. They asked, "Where did he get all this wisdom and the power to perform such miracles?"

**[Luk 10:13 NLT]** 13 "What sorrow awaits you, Korazin and Bethsaida! For if the miracles I did in you had been done in wicked Tyre and Sidon, their people would have repented of their sins long ago, clothing themselves in burlap and throwing ashes on their heads to show their remorse.

**[Luk 19:37 NLT]** 37 When he reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.


**[Luk 24:19 NLT]** 19 "What things?" Jesus asked. "The things that happened to

Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. [Jhn 5:36 NLT] 36 But I have a greater witness than John--my teachings and my miracles. The Father gave me these works to accomplish, and they prove that he sent me.

[Jhn 7:3 NLT] 3 and Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles!

[Act 2:22 NLT] 22 "People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know.

## Some common agonizing questions here

1. The wife of one of the **sons of the prophets** cried
  2. My husband is **dead**, and you know that your servant **feared the LORD**
  3. The creditor has come to take my two children
  4. "What shall I do for you?"
- 

1. Does God hear our cries? God healed the dead child, why Not my husband? We ALL suffer the curse of the Fall! Its inescapable!
2. Your servant feared the Lord! Serving God doesn't prevent trials and tribulations
3. the creditor has come \_ Gods people are often Poor! In Debt! HWP gospel is a lie
4. "What shall I do for you?" Elisha is gracious. She was asking! God cares about our cries! Jesus wept.
5. What do you have? Israelites wore same clothes for 40 years! God gave Adam skins of a lamb, Jesus had his clothes gambled over as he hung naked! We will get robes of white!
6. Borrow vessels? Ever feel humbled to beg? God designed us to ened each other! Did this open doors to share the story of the miracle?
7. Go, sell, pay debts, live on rest. She still had to do her part and work.

[Psa 39:12 ESV] 12 "Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears! For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

**[Psa 56:8 ESV] 8 You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?**

[Psa 116:8 ESV] 8 For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears,

my feet from stumbling;

[Psa 126:5 ESV] 5 Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!

[Isa 25:8 ESV] 8 He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

[Isa 38:5 ESV] 5 "Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Behold, I will add fifteen years to your life.

**[Jhn 11:35 ESV] 35 Jesus wept.**

**[Psa 103:11, 17 ESV] 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ... 17 But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,**

[Psa 112:1-2 ESV] 1 Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments! 2 His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

[Psa 115:13 ESV] 13 he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.

[Psa 147:11 ESV] 11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

[Ecc 8:12 ESV] 12 Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him.

[Mal 3:16 ESV] 16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name.

[Lev 25:39 ESV] 39 "If your brother becomes poor beside you and sells himself to you, you shall not make him serve as a slave: **Gods servants sometimes are poor and have Debts!!**



## Some common agonizing questions here

5. "Tell me; what have you in the house?"
6. Borrow vessels from all your neighbors
7. "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your son can live on the rest."





**Hey by the way!**

**IF God could/would fill the Oil Jar, Could He not also fill the widows empty heart as she missed her husband??!**

# Miracles

- Water – God often works in different ways
  - Noah's Ark, above water
  - Moses walked through parted water, Stand Still and see!
  - Joshua walked through parted water as they stepped
  - Jonah's Great Fish, Below Water
  - Jesus walked on the water and then calmed the sea!

God fed Elijah with Ravens

Fed prophets with Obadiah who hid them in caves

Fed widow with endless jars of flour and Oil

Fed the widow with Elisha with Oil, borrowed jars and sealing it

[1Ki 17:9-16 ESV] 9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you." 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." 11 And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." 12 And she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now 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 first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.'" 15 And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according

to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

The Widow wasn't a Jew, She didn't seek the prophet or ASK for help, though desperate. She had a little flour and the Lord just filled the empty vessels daily

Elisha. 2Ki.4

The Widow was a Jew, sought the Prophet, Asked for help and borrowed vessels, and filled them once and had money extra for the rest of their lives

[Exo 14:13 ESV] 13 And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.

## Miracles

- Elijah ate the cake – 1 Kings 17:9-16
- Elisha told the widow to borrow vessels, fill once/sell





**Jn.2**

**Jesus also provided for needs, in his 1<sup>st</sup> miracle!**

**Instead of filling empty jars by pouring them out, He changed the very nature of the contents!**

**With Elijah and Elisha God made MCUH of Little!  
Jesus changed the very Nature of what was! Net Testament!**



## Empty 'Vessels'

- Romans 9-21 – Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?
- 2 Timothy 2:21 – Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

[1Pe 3:7 ESV] 7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

[2Ki 4:2-5 ESV] 2 And Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what have you in the house?" And she said, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." 3 Then he said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few. 4 Then go in and shut the door behind yourself and your sons and pour into all these vessels. And when one is full, set it aside." 5 So she went from him and shut the door behind herself and her sons. And as she poured they brought the vessels to her.

[Lev 6:28 ESV] 28 And the earthenware vessel in which it is boiled shall be broken. But if it is boiled in a bronze vessel, that shall be scoured and rinsed in water.

[Jos 6:19 ESV] 19 But all silver and gold, and every vessel of bronze and iron, are holy to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD."

[1Ki 17:10 ESV] 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink."

[2Ki 4:6 ESV] 6 When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another

vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another." Then the oil stopped flowing.

[Psa 2:9 ESV] 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

[Psa 31:12 ESV] 12 I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.

[Pro 26:23 ESV] 23 Like the glaze covering an earthen vessel are fervent lips with an evil heart.

[Isa 30:14 ESV] 14 and its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern."

[Jer 18:4 ESV] 4 And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do.

[Jer 19:11 ESV] 11 and shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: So will I break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, so that it can never be mended. Men shall bury in Topheth because there will be no place else to bury.

[Jer 32:14 ESV] 14 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware vessel, that they may last for a long time.

[Jer 51:34 ESV] 34 "Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon has devoured me; he has crushed me; he has made me an empty vessel; he has swallowed me like a monster; he has filled his stomach with my delicacies; he has rinsed me out.

## Empty 'Vessels'

- Ephesians 5:18 – And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,





## Oil made Aaron holy – The Holy Spirit

- Anoint my head with Oil – Psalm 23:5
- Symbolic of Unity, Aaron's beard – Psalm 133:2
- Symbolic of sweet counsel of a friend – Proverbs 27:9
- Oil of Joy for Mourning – Isaiah 61:3



Oil is a Food, Medicine, Cosmetic, Illuminant,

[Exo 27:20 ESV] 20 "You shall command the people of Israel that they bring to you pure beaten olive oil for the light, that a lamp may regularly be set up to burn.

[Exo 30:25, 31 ESV] 25 And you shall make of these a sacred anointing oil blended as by the perfumer; it shall be a holy anointing oil. ... 31 And you shall say to the people of Israel, 'This shall be my holy anointing oil throughout your generations.

[Lev 8:12 ESV] 12 And he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him to consecrate him.

[Lev 24:2 KJV] 2 Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually.

Psa 104:15 KJV - 15 And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

**Psa 23:5 KJV** - 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

The unction of the Holy Spirit

[Psa 45:7](#); [89:20](#); [Zec 4:12](#)

[Psa 141:5 ESV] 5 **Let a righteous man strike me--it is a kindness; let him rebuke me--it is oil for my head**; let my head not refuse it. Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds.

[Pro 27:9 ESV] 9 **Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel.**

[Sng 1:3 ESV] 3 **your anointing oils are fragrant; your name is oil poured out**; therefore virgins love you.

[Jhn 12:3 ESV] 3 **Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair.** The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

**[Exo 30:25, 29 And you shall make of these a sacred anointing oil blended as by the perfumer; it shall be a holy anointing oil. ... 29 You shall consecrate them, that they may be most holy. Whatever touches them will become holy.**

**[Lev 8:12 ESV] 12 And he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him to consecrate him.**

**Psa 133:1-2 A Song of Ascents. Of David. Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!**

[2Co 4:6-7 ESV] 6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.



## Oil made Aaron holy – The Holy Spirit

- 2 Corinthians 4:7 – But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. (4:6 Light)
- We are ceramic lamps, need Oil!





## Oh Lord, Open our eyes

- Even the saints suffer the curse! Death comes for all of us
- We have not because we ask not! Faith is personal!
- To your special love/care for the vulnerable ...  
Widows!
- To your care for the Individual, as well as corporat

**God uses what you have! Even if its empty jars!**

**We must keep emptying ourselves in His service!!**

**Thank you Lord for opening our eyes to see How much you Love us,  
intensely, personally and practically!**

**[Heb 9:27 ESV] 27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,**

[Gen 3:19 ESV] 19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

[2Sa 14:14 ESV] 14 We must all die; we are like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. But God will not take away life, and he devises means so that the banished one will not remain an outcast.

[Job 14:5 ESV] 5 Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass,

[Psa 89:48 ESV] 48 What man can live and never see death? Who can deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? Selah

[Ecc 3:20 ESV] 20 All go to one place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return.

[Ecc 12:7 ESV] 7 and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

[Rom 5:12 ESV] 12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned--

**[Jas 4:2 ESV] 2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.**

[Jas 1:5 ESV] 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

[Mat 7:7-8 ESV] 7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

[Luk 11:13 ESV] 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

[Jhn 4:10 ESV] 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

[Jhn 16:24 ESV] 24 Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

**[Psa 68:5 ESV] 5 Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.**

[Jer 49:11 ESV] 11 Leave your fatherless children; I will keep them alive; and let your widows trust in me."

[1Ti 5:3, 16 ESV] 3 Honor widows who are truly widows. ... 16 If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her care for them. Let the church not be burdened, so that it may care for those who are truly widows.

[Jas 1:27 ESV] 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

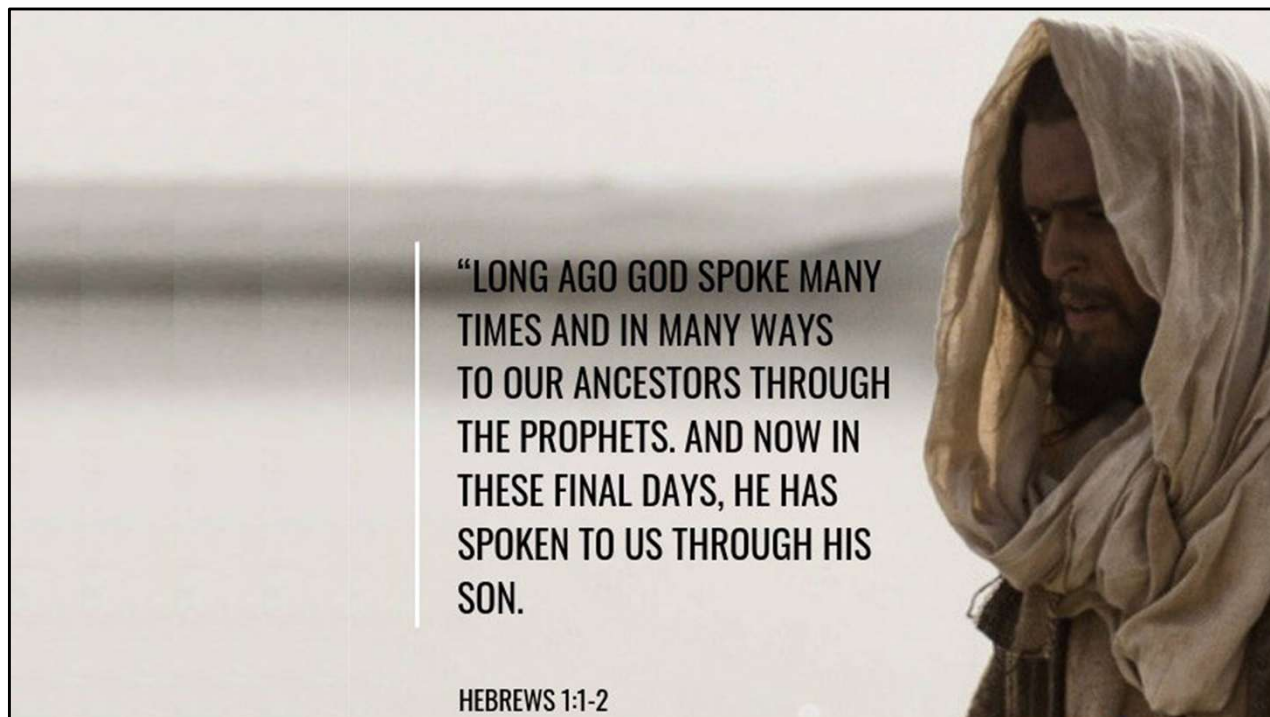
## Oh Lord, Open our eyes

- To the fact you do miracles! Unusual and Daily!
- That you especially care for those who serve you!
- That the vessel is not so important, but what fills it!
- Faith still requires faithfulness, our part!

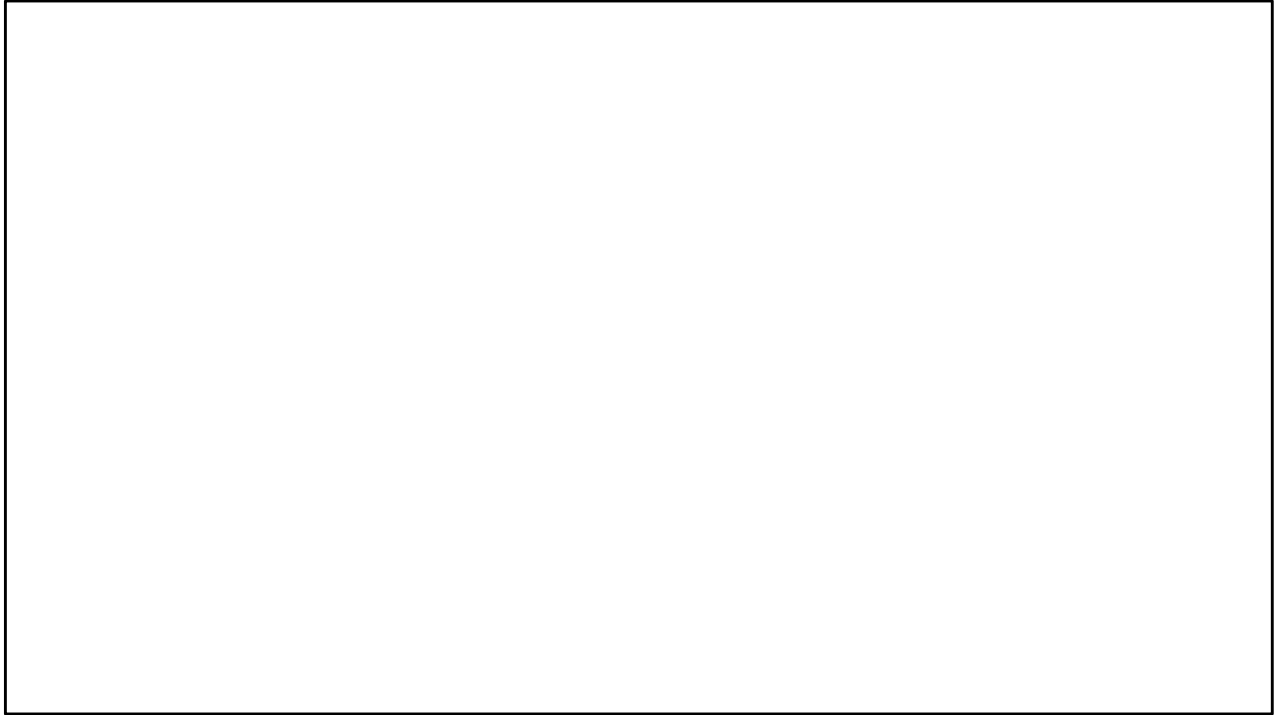






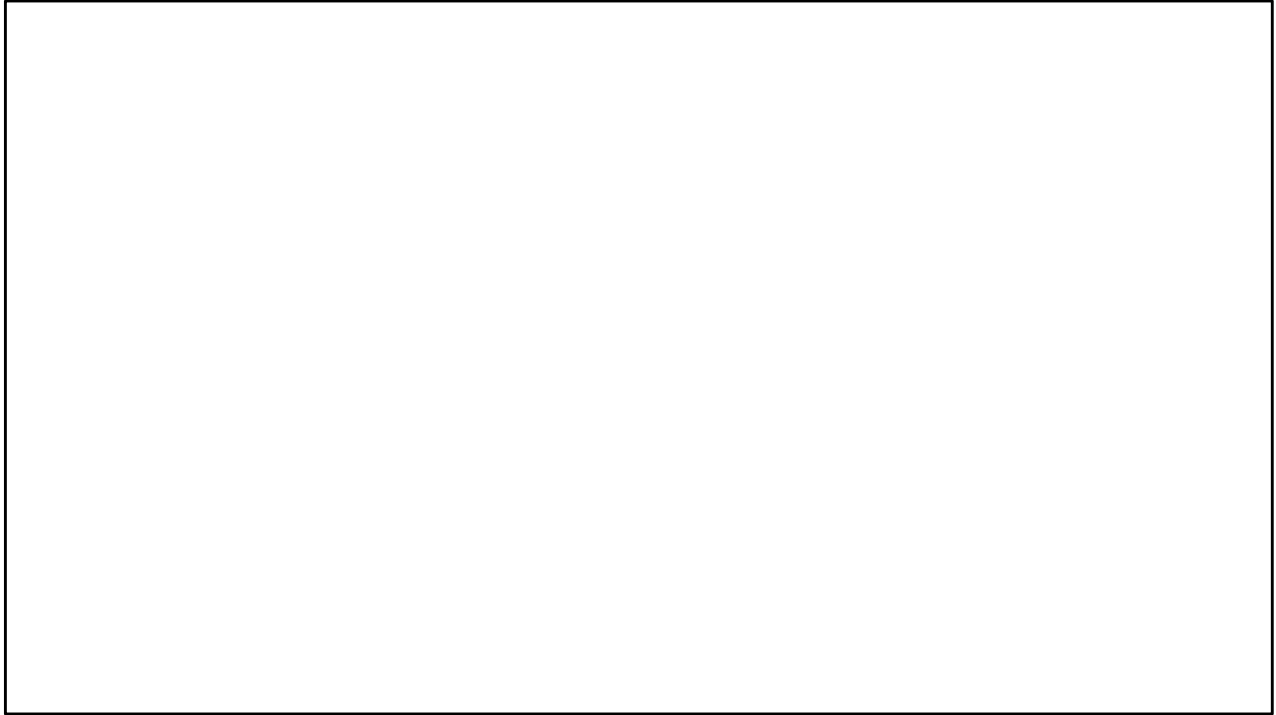


Jesus was like/But even Better than the Prophets Elijah and Elisha! They raised the Dead and so did Jesus, including Himself!











## Elisha & the Widow's Oil



# ELISHA

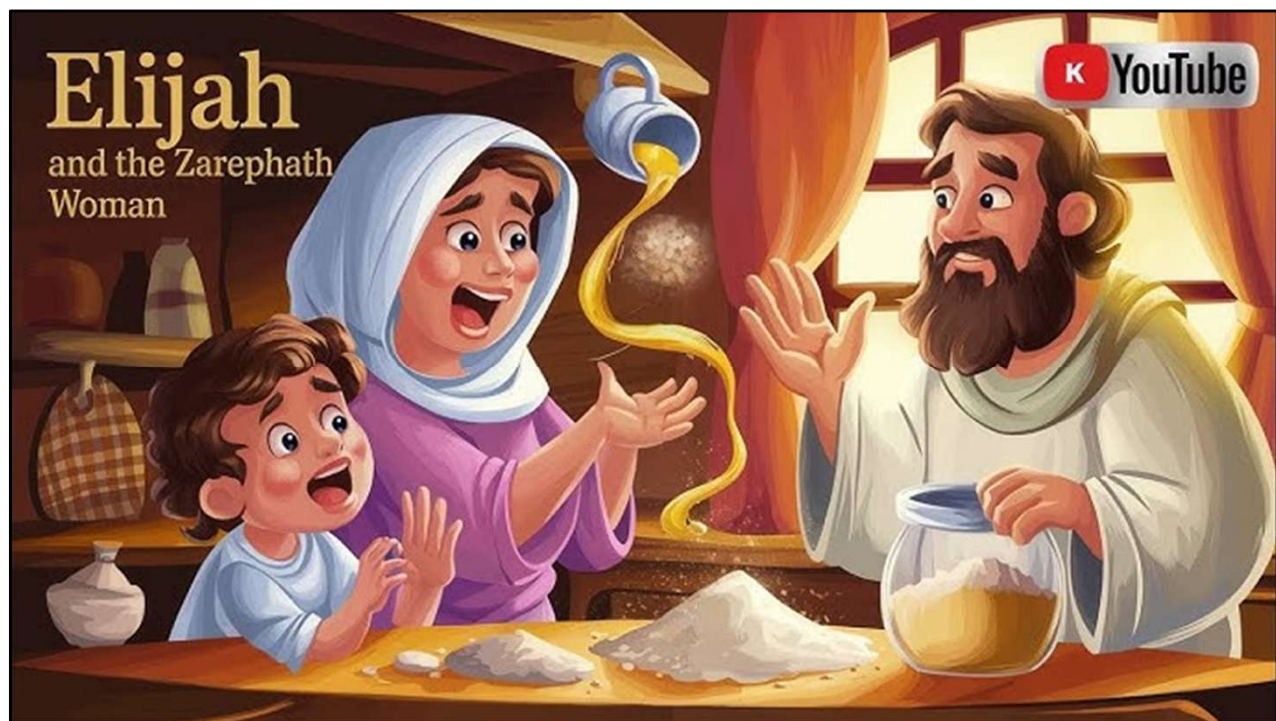
PART THREE: THE OIL IN YOUR HOUSE







**Elisha**  
multiplies a  
widow's oil to  
pay her debts











# The Oil Never Ran Out

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by  
Richard Gunther







## A Widow's Oil Well from the Lord

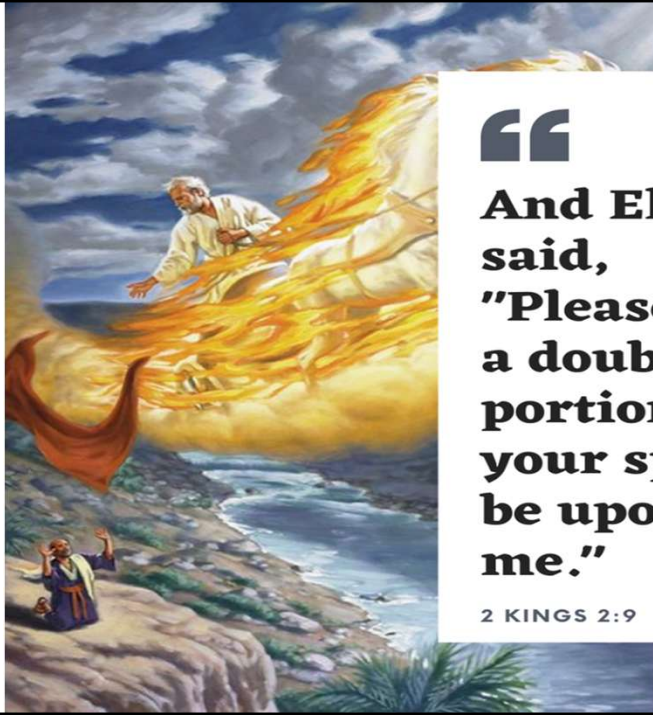
"Bring me another vessel."

"There is  
not another  
vessel."

So the oil ceased. (2 Kings 4:1-7)

[SomeJesusThings.com](http://SomeJesusThings.com)





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**And Elisha  
said,  
"Please, let  
a double  
portion of  
your spirit  
be upon  
me."**

2 KINGS 2:9