"Faith in Times of Trouble"

Sunday, March 6, 2016 Dr. Janet Cook, Senior Pastor © 2016 Praysers Ministries, Inc., dba River of Life Community Church

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me" Psalm 50:15 (NKJV).

• God always knows a way out!

Faith in the Midst of Famine and Drought

"Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst" John 6:35 (NKJV).

Elijah and the Widow

"Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you" 1 Kings 17:7-9 (NKJV).

Elijah Obeyed the Word of the Lord.

"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.' And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, 'Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand'" 1 Kings 17:10-11 (NKJV).

"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." 1 Kings 17:12 (NKJV) (Emphasis added).

• The widow did not think she had anything to offer Elijah.

Elijah Told the Widow "Do Not FEAR!"

"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. 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' So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah'" 1 Kings 17:13-15a (NKJV).

A Provision of Faith

"...and she and he and her household ate for many days. 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" 1 Kings 17:15b-16 (NKJV).

"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness" Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV).

Another Test of Faith

"Now it happened after these things that the son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him. So she said to Elijah, 'What have I to do with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?" 1 Kings 17:17-18 (NKJV).

A Prayer of Faith

"And he said to her, 'Give me your son.' So he took him out of her arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed. Then he cried out to the Lord and said, 'O Lord my God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow with whom I lodge, by killing her son?' And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the Lord and said, 'O Lord my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him'" 1 Kings 17:19-21 (NKJV).

• Elijah had experienced God's power in times of trouble, and he had no doubt of what God was capable of doing.

The Lord Heard Elijah.

"Then the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived. And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, 'See, your son lives'" 1 Kings 17:22-23 (NKJV).

A Profession of Faith

"Then the woman said to Elijah, 'Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is the truth" 1 Kings 17:24 (NKJV).

- God's Word can be trusted beyond doubt.
- Gods Word can be trusted for all of your needs in life and death.
- May we say, "Now we know that the Word of the Lord is the truth" and make that truth into a living faith.