

YOU WILL LACK NO GOOD THING

He is a God who says and He is a God who does it.

The promise for this month is “You will lack no good thing”.

Key Verse:

Psalm 34:10

The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. (ESV)

Amidst this lockdown due to Corona, the biggest problem for us is “What will we have for tomorrow?” We are worried whether we will have enough food to eat, whether our needs will be met, whether we will have our jobs and whether things will happen for me. Most of us are concerned whether we will go back to the same life that we had. But, it will be better than how it has been. I want to encourage you that in this month of May, those who seek the Lord, will not lack any good thing.

God will provide for us, blessing will come through our way, in search of us and we will have abundance. God will provide us our daily bread. Your flour will not be used up and oil will never run dry.

Be encouraged and say with faith “We will not lack any good thing.”

Background:

David wrote this when he was acting like a mad man in front of Abimelech, the Philistine king, to save his life. We might be worried about the things of this world – will I have enough money, will I have the needs met? Whether you have the resources or not, for those who seek the Lord, they will lack no good thing.

Let’s focus on the story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath (*I Kings 17*).

There is a famine - the reason for taking this passage is we also are in want / shortage. Our normal life has been affected – our job, finances and basic needs. But, God is going to do a miracle amidst our trials and persecutions.

When there was a famine, (*I Kings 17*)

I Kings 17:3 and 4:

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 directed the ravens to supply you with food there.

God says, go from here and I will direct the ravens to supply your needs. Since we know this story, we accept and believe what the Word says. But in the real scenario, imagine if God says, amidst this lockdown, I will direct the ravens to provide for you, will we ever believe God’s word? How come this is possible? We believe when we read it, but if we need to apply the same in our life, it becomes difficult for us. We will not be able to believe what God says and we question God.

Back to the story, Elijah’s needs were taken care of and now, Elijah started to expect the ravens now. The focus shifted from the Lord to the raven. The same applies with us as well. We also shift our focus and start expecting the resources – our jobs, boss, and friends have been the ravens (resources) God

sent to help us rather than focusing on God, our provider. When our focus shifts, God detaches those resources from that particular provision. God will not send that resource again.

God told Elijah, the time is up and you need to move on from here, move to another place.

1 Kings 17:8 and 9:

8 - Then the word of the LORD came to him:

9 - Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food."

God tells Elijah to go to another place saying He has already instructed a widow to take care of him. Elijah's expectation was God has prepared everything and He will take care of my needs.

THERE IS A BLESSING BEHIND EVERY DISAPPOINTMENT

Dear children of God, the main focus is that "There is a blessing in every disappointment."

God has kept a blessing behind every disappointment and we need faith to receive that. Our faith decreases where there is a disappointment. See from both Elijah and the widow of Zarephath's perspective. Both are disappointed. God told Elijah, "go to that town and I have a person to take care of you." Elijah believed that God has taken care of all his needs. We also believe that God will take care of all our needs. But then, it is not going to be the way we think or we expect. Though things have not happened the way you expected, but things will happen the way God wanted it to be. He will take care of us.

Now, Elijah goes to that place and he meets the widow. Both had their own expectations. For Elijah, his expectation was that God has kept a person who will take care of his needs. The expectation of the widow was God is sending a man of God and He will take care of her needs through him. Both had expectations. And both believed that God is sending the other person to take care of their needs. But then when they met, they were disappointed. They have come together according to God's plan but when they met, they had a big disappointment. What was that?

1 Kings 17:10:

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?"

DO NOT FOCUS ON THE PERSON BUT THE LORD WHO HAD SENT THAT PERSON

Elijah went to the place God told him, saw the widow and was happy for he saw that the promise of God has been fulfilled, expecting his needs to be available and there won't be any more challenges. To confirm that this is the person God had commanded about him, he asks the widow to bring some water. Elijah's expectation – right place and right person. Now for the widow, she believed that this is the man of God about whom God had commanded her and that this man will do something for me. Many a times, this is how we get stuck. We don't focus on the Lord who sent us but we focus on the person whom the Lord had sent.

As the woman went in to bring the water,

1 Kings 17:11:

11 - As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

Elijah asked for a piece of bread to be brought along with the water. During this lockdown, we would've called people for help and they would have helped us. Now, we ask them for a bigger help. If someone

calls us while we pray to God for help, we immediately think that this is the person God has sent to help us. We think so and ask them for help. Sometimes, the Lord surprises us big time. There is a surprise in this disappointment. What is the surprise God has kept?

1 Kings 17:12:

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 olive 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.

She said, we just have little flour and oil and I say this in front of the Lord whom you and I worship. This is all I have. Some of us are in the same scenario; I just have something left for another meal and nothing else. This is our state right now. Don't know what do to – no job, less or no money, no provision. This is the last portion we have. God is testing them amidst this situation. Elijah being a man of God, understanding the situation of the woman, would have thought should I take the little that she has. Elijah was disappointed, but then, he knew that if God had sent me here, there would be a purpose and goes on to ask her.

1 Kings 17:13 and 14:

13 - Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf 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 sends rain on the land.'

Elijah takes a bold step of faith and says, "you do whatever you want to do but before that, bake a piece of cake for me and bring it." And goes on to say, till this famine is over, there will be enough flour and enough oil for you. We might have our own questions about these promises. But this is what the Lord expects us to do during these testing times - though you don't have anything, still help someone who is in need. Lot of people are suffering. How will I help when I don't have or have very less? Maybe, what we have is the last portion, but still if we can help someone who does not have or the one in need; when we give what we have, God will make sure your provision never runs dry.

This month we will not have any shortage and through us, others also will not have any shortage. We are going to help others, upload others, and give them. By giving, we will not run dry for God will make sure will don't lack any good thing.

1 Kings 17:15 and 16:

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.

So the woman went in to make a piece of cake. She did as Elijah commanded and God made sure everyone had food to eat. And as Lord spoke through Elijah, neither the jar of flour nor the oil ran empty. God will never allow your resources to run dry. Do not be worried. You will have everything. God will make sure we have everything – enough and surplus. Not just food, you and your family's health, your happiness. God will do it for you.

Illustration:

A lady who had great belief in the Lord and there was a Christian radio station. In faith, she used to call the radio station often and say, "pray that the Lord will provide." But the Radio Jockey was an Atheist. Still she used to call and ask him to pray. One day, this Atheist bought some things and sent it to that lady through one of his colleague. The woman who delivered it said to her "this has been sent by a man who does not believe in God. He bought this provision for you." But this lady said, "When the Lord provides and when He commands, even the devil obeys."

When God provides and when God commands, even the enemy has to obey. We may not know whether the Lord will use a raven or a widow to provide for us. But the Lord promises no single blessing you will lack. You will not lack any good thing in this month and in the days to come. God will give you the best, you will not have any shortage but will have it in surplus. That's how God will take care of your needs. Young lions may hunger and lack, not you.

People who seek the Lord will lack no good thing.

Confess In Faith

We will lack no good thing. This month, the Lord will supply in surplus. Disappointments will have blessings hidden behind it. There are surprises for me. God has kept a blessing for me. The Lord is supplying the best things for me.