

## **The Brook dried up, but it is not over!**

I Kings 17: v. 3 to 7 – Tells the story of Elijah during a drought in the land.

v.1 “And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,”

v.2 “Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.”

v.3 “And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed the there.”

v.4 “So he went and did according unto the word of the Lord: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.”

v.5 “And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.”

v.6 “And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.”

v.7 “AND the word of the Lord came unto him saying,”

v.8 “Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there; behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.”

We must remember that:

- There will be times in your Christian walk when trials seem overwhelming and insurmountable.
- Seasons of testing will come in your life.
- We must stand up and fight the good fight of faith, in spite of how difficult it seems.
- Our actions and inactions during these times determine how and/or when we get to the next level.
- Remember that attacks are “droughts”, which always precede a miracle or breakthrough.
- Attacks sometimes indicate that we are on the verge of a breakthrough.
- Whenever it appears that all is lost and the enemy has won, remember to rise up and know that “it ain’t over”, until God says it’s over.

A Devotional From Bishop Larry J. Dennison  
October 2010

*Historical context:* Elijah's taught Godly messages against sin, which provoked anger among the people. So God told him to that there would be a drought and told him where he should go.

The message for us in this example is the following:

- The brook represents a place of refuge, a place where Elijah could be alone with God, so he could hear God alone, a place of comfort and sustenance.
- Anytime we choose to obey God, we can expect opposition.
- It is a dangerous thing to silence the voice of the preacher/minister/pastor and those obeying the word.

**The Protection at the Brook** - Even though the enemy comes against us, God has a way of guarding us. God will protect us.

God protects His children; your life is not in the hands of man, so do not worry about what man has done, or is doing to us. God will, hide us under the shadow of His wing, in His bosom, in the cleft of a rock, wherever He chooses to shield us before, during or until after danger has past.

Sometimes it is good to steal away and talk to God.

Sometimes God will send us away, so we can be by ourselves and have the ample opportunity to talk to Him one-on-one.

**The Provision at the Brook** – God commanded the raven to bring bread in the morning and the evening. Elijah drank from the brook.

God used a raven in this example, which is ironic because of the nature of a raven. But you can rest assured; God will always bring or send someone or something to help us along the way, to get to the next level.

That is why we should be careful who we criticize, who we reject, who we scorn, who we ignore; because God uses unlikely sources of help, instruction, and protection to assist us.

Other examples of sources of help and instruction that God has used include a jackass (Balaam), a great fish (Jonah), a rooster (Peter), small fish (Jesus' disciples).

But, after the brook dried up, it appeared to be over. However, the brook was only meant to assist Elijah for a season, until God was ready to take him to the next level.

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Sometimes, God only blesses us for a season. Then there is another test, another instruction, a season of quiet, or another blessing.

**The Problem at the Brook** – The brook dried up, but it is not over. God has something else for us.

What do we do when our “brook” has dried up? Weep, worry, and become afraid? We must seek God’s voice, because He has something for us, in the midst of our problems.

**The Plan at the Brook** – God has a plan for our lives, even though the “brook” may have dried up.

God wanted Elijah to go to Zarephath, where there was a widow, who could provide him with sustenance, since the brook (his previous source) had dried up.

God is greater than any problem, trial, condition, test, sickness, disease, or troubles. You name it, He is greater than it.

He is our great provider. Someone is at our “Zarephath”, waiting for us to release our anointing on them.

God used Elijah even in his uncomfortable circumstances, and although he felt like throwing in the towel, God had a purpose for these circumstances and a plan for his life that he could not see.

Thank God for the Brook, and the Raven. But now, God is moving us to a new dimension in our lives. Thank God!

Zarephath means refiner, finisher. God has to move us in order to refine us, to finish us up, and polish us up, so that He can use us to be miracles for others, in the way He used Elijah.

Are you ready for your “Elijah” experience?