

“Historical Books Of The Bible”

1 Kings 17:1-24

Wednesday July 20, 2016

1 Kings 17:1-7

1 Kings 17-19 – Elijah Versus Ahab, (Really, God Versus Baal).

1 Kings 17-18 – These two chapters record 7 different miracles that Elijah either performed or experienced.

1 Kings 12-22 – The Kingdom Divided: All the kings of Israel practiced idolatry; the worst served Baal.

1 Kings 16:28 – 1 Kings 22 Is Wicked Ahab Of Israel.

1. Verse 1 – Miracle – Nationwide Drought

2. Verses 2-7 – Miracle – Food From Unclean Birds

3. Verses 8-16 – Miracle – Food From Empty Vessels

4. Verses 17-24 – Miracle – Life For A Dead Boy

1. Verse 1 – Miracle – Nationwide Drought:

1 Kings 17:1

“Elijah” – name means, “The Lord (Jehovah) is my God.”

“the Tishbite,” – The word is sometimes interpreted as “stranger,” so that the verse might read “Elijah, the stranger from among the strangers in Gilead.”

“said to Ahab,” – (Israel) Wicked King Ahab had permitted his wife Jezebel to bring the worship of Baal into Israel, 1 Kings 16:31-33.

Baal – was the Phoenician fertility god who sent rain and bountiful crops, and the rites connected with his worship are immoral.

“said to Ahab,” – It’s likely that Elijah appeared before King Ahab in October, about the time the early rains should have begun.

Early rain was in October and November and the latter rain in March and April; But the blessing of the semiannual rains depended on the people obeying the covenant of the Lord, Deuteronomy 11.

Deuteronomy 28:23-24; Leviticus 26:3-4, 18-19

James 5:17-18

2. Verses 2-7 – Miracle – Food From Unclean Birds:

1 Kings 17:2-3

“Go away from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself”

1 Kings 18:10

“hide yourself!” – was God’s command, and three years later the command would be 1 Kings 18:1 – “Go, show yourself!”

God’s Word was to the Jewish people like the rain from heaven (Deut. 32:2; Isa. 55:10); Psalm 28:1.

1 Kings 17:4

“It shall be that you will drink of the brook,” – Elijah had safety and sustenance.

Ravens – were considered “unclean” and “detestable” on the Mosaic list of forbidden foods (Leviticus 11:13-15; Deuteronomy 14:14).

1 Kings 17:5-7

“The will of God will never lead us where the grace of God cannot keep us and care for us”; and Elijah knew this from experience. (Isaiah 33:15-16)

3. Verses 8-16 – Miracle – Food From Empty Vessels:

1 Kings 17:8-10

Elijah was about to learn what God could do with empty vessels!

1 Kings 17:11

It’s probable that Elijah remained with her for two years, 1 Kings 18:1.

1 Kings 17:12-13

“Then Elijah said to her, ‘Do not fear;’” – God had spoken to this widow to provide for Elijah, 1 Kings 17:9.

1 Kings 17:14-16

Note: Baal could not and did not provide for Israel. The drought was from God and the provision came from God!

4. Verses 17-24 – Miracle – Life For A Dead Boy:

1 Kings 17:17

James 2:26

1 Kings 17:18

John 9:2

1 Kings 17:19

Mark 5:40

1 Kings 17:20-21

“Then he stretched himself upon the child three times” – His posture indicated total identification with the boy and his need.

1 Kings 17:22

This is the first recorded instance in Scripture of someone being raised from the dead. Widow's Son – Luke 7:14-15; The Daughter Of Jairus – Luke 8:54-55; Lazarus – John 11:43-44. Only God can raise the dead!

1 Kings 17:23-24

God sustains life (the meal and oil didn't run out) and God imparts life (the boy was raised from the dead).

1 Kings 18 – Calling Down Fire From Heaven.

Matthew 25:21

Jesus used this story of the widow of Zarephath. In the sermon, He preached in the synagogue in Nazereth, Luke 4:16-30.

Luke 4:25-26

2 Kings 5:1-15

Luke 4:27-30

Application:

1. Elijah Illustrates How The Servant Of God Should Wait For The Word From God So They Can Walk In His Will.
2. God Sustains Life. God Used Ravens. God Provided Through A Widow, Who's Meal And Oil Didn't Run Out.
3. Elijah's Ministry To The Widow And Her Son Was Proof That God Is No Respector Of Persons. Romans 3:23 – The Only Way Of Salvation Is Through Faith In Jesus Christ: Acts 4:12
4. God Is The Giver Of Life. God Imparted Life To The Widow's Dead Son By Raising Him From The Dead.