

# *Sakkie Parsons E-Pos Bediening*

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## *A Wonderful Example of A True Prophet*

*by Zac Poonen*

In 1 Kings Chapter 17 the first thing I want you to notice about Elijah are his words to King Ahab: “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand”. These True prophets did not fear kings because of one reason: They stood before the Lord. Kings were mere specks of dust before God. The great need is for young men who can be prophets like that. Knowledge of the Bible is important. You must live before God’s face. To live before God’s face, you must keep your conscience 100% clear - not 99%, but 100%. And you must humble yourself totally. Your face must be in the dust all the time. That’s how Elijah lived.

If God can’t find young men like that, I hope He will find some young sisters who live before God’s face and be a voice for Him. You may not stand in a pulpit, but you can influence people from your homes. God needs many brothers and sisters in our land who live before His face.

Elijah was a man who was instantly obedient to every little thing that God said. God told him one day to go and hide Himself by the brook Cherith – and he went at once (1 Kings 17:3).

There the ravens brought him bread and meat and he drank from the brook (1 Kings 17:6). At 8 o’clock every morning, a raven would bring him some food. Again at 5 o’clock in the evening, another raven would bring him some food. These crows would bring him meat. If the crows had brought him vegetables, that itself would have been a miracle. But for a Crow to bring meat (which it loves) is a greater miracle. That’s how God provided for Elijah. But gradually, after a few days, Elijah began depending on the ravens and not the Lord!

Many servants of the Lord start out trusting the Lord for their financial needs. But after a few years, they are no longer depending on the Lord, but on some ravens – human beings who send them regular support! That is exactly what happened to Elijah. So what did the Lord do? He stopped the ravens. God wanted to shake off Elijah’s dependence on ravens and to teach him once again to depend on the Lord. So Thank God when the ravens stop coming – when the promised support doesn’t come. Then you will learn once again to trust the Lord alone for your needs.

I have been through experiences like that. I thank God for the times when He has turned away my eyes from ravens to Him Who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, and Who has said that He will supply all my needs according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus.

The Lord then changed His method and told Elijah now to go to Zarephath. Zarephath was outside Israel. Elijah may have imagined that some rich businessman there would take care of Him. But when he reached Zarephath, what he found was not a rich businessman, but a poor widow who was just about to have her last meal! And the Lord told Elijah, "She will support you"! God's ways are truly amazing. God does things like that, because He is a jealous God. He wants us to trust in Him, and not in ravens or rich businessmen. He will use a weak person whom you least expect to be able to help you, and use him, so that no flesh may glory in His presence.

The widow said, "We were just about to have our last meal and die." Elijah told her, "Don't be afraid make me a little bread cake from it first. The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the Day the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth." (1 Kings 17:13,14).

And the bowl of flour was not exhausted and the jar of oil did not become empty.

There are many preachers today who use this incident to teach poor people to give them money. But that is a total misinterpretation of this incident. First of all, most of today's preachers are not prophets like Elijah. Secondly, most of today's preachers are lovers of money, unlike Elijah.

These two facts alone put Elijah in a different class altogether, from most of today's preachers who exploit the poor.

Further, Elijah asked the widow for just a bare meal to survive in a time of famine; and he ate the same food that the widow and her son ate. Today's preachers are not asking for money for them to survive, but for them to support their grand lifestyles. There are multitudes of false prophets around today. Unfortunately, since most of God's people do not know how to distinguish between a true prophet and a false one, they are deceived.

For more information write to: [wftw@cfcindia.com](mailto:wftw@cfcindia.com)

***Judas 1:24-25 Aan Hom nou wat magtig is om julle vir struikeling te bewaar en julle sonder gebrek voor sy heerlikheid te stel met gejuig, 25. aan die alleenwyse God, ons Verlosser, kom toe heerlikheid en majesteit, krag en mag, nou tot in alle ewigheid! Amen.***

*Groete  
Sakkie*

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