

1 Kings 17:14

“For thus says the Lord God of Israel, ‘The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted, nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth.’”

1. Elijah has established his authority in the woman’s home. He is the household’s resource for truth which he will enforce for three years.
2. He has the gift of prophecy which is defined as follows:
... the work of a prophet is not the fulfilling of an office, but the performance of a function. God on several occasions selected a man to give one or two messages and never again used him as His mouthpiece. On other occasions the Lord used a man as a prophet over a long period. The prophetic position is entirely a matter of relationship to God and cannot be enhanced or decreased by any human agency.²
3. Elijah’s function of prophet gives him authority over the widow’s home and the responsibility to protect those in it. The house rules consist of his application of the God’s policies, principles, and doctrines.
4. Elijah proclaimed by means of prophecy that divine logistics will continue to be made available and Elijah’s authority will continue in force ‘until the day that the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth’ (1 Kings 17:14d).
5. This prophecy clearly indicates that the drought will end, but its length is not indicated. As the episode plays out, the prophecy will be fulfilled in three years. Its timing is determined by the Lord.
6. Elijah, the woman, and the child have no idea when the drought will end, however its imposition was ordained by God in eternity past, its duration was known in eternity past, and its historical impact was known in eternity past.
7. The Northern Kingdom’s decline into idolatry by the first seven of its kings was known to God in eternity past; the necessity of the corrective procedure by a drought was decided by God in eternity past, and the resolution of the spiritual crisis was known to God in eternity past and contained, jot and tittle, in the divine decree.
8. Throughout history, the sovereignty of God and the free will of man coexist by divine decree.

² A. A. MacRae, “Prophets and Prophecy” in *The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopaedia of the Bible*, gen. ed. Merrill C. Tenney (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1976), 4:876.



9. Remember that God controls the planet's weather through the agency of His weather angels. We are informed of their control of the climate in:

Revelation 7:1 I saw four pursuivant angels standing at attention at the four corners, or quadrants, of the earth, restraining the four wind systems of the earth in order that no wind should blow on the land, or on the sea, or against any tree. (EXT)

10. Weather is one of the means by which the divine decree can punish or bless individuals or groups of people. We have recently studied the weather patterns in Israel and how farmers knew to keep a stock of certain edibles in cases of drought or excessive rain.
11. To withhold rain for three and one-half years is not a natural weather event. This is divine discipline because of 75 years of seven kings with negative KERs and a population which constantly indulged in the heathen practices of idolatry.
12. We do not engage in prophecy, but from Revelation 7:1 do we dare to imagine that at some point over the next few weeks the four weather angels may be assembled at the earth's four quadrants awaiting their deployments? This was certainly the case for the Northern Kingdom as the Lord's three- and one-half year drought was coming to an end.
13. Zárephath was where the three-year period of the drought began. Elijah has issued the promise that the flour and the oil will continue to provide logistics for survival "until the day the Lord sends rain."
14. Elijah quotes the Lord God of Israel but the source of these logistics was contained in the divine decree in eternity past. Therefore, what grace orientation produces is confidence in the veracity of the Word of God.
15. God's Word is immutable. What circumstances imply are not proscribed by the divine decree. When grace orientation is achieved a relaxed mental attitude occurs.
16. **Principle:** When current circumstances influence decisions they are deployed without reference to the divine decree. Grace orientation provides confidence in the plan of God and the principle of logistical grace.
17. When governmental decisions are made from the source of human viewpoint the result is the implementation of laws or the passage of laws that ignore the plan of God.
18. What controls history is the Word of God. Its observance provides prosperity while its rejection produces failure. When the two are at odds, doctrine in the souls of mature believers produces a positive outcome.



19. It is important to allow the two principles to remain at odds. Allow the hoi polloi to fully deploy their cosmic ideas while, unknown to them, the plan of God will expose their lies by their failures.
20. There is an underlying cosmic power that exists in the arena of progressive rationales. When its followers lust for power, they deploy their systems of evil in order to acquire political power with the objective of ruling over their adversaries.
21. When establishment-oriented people allow themselves to be browbeaten into capitulating by the madding throng, they do so by enslaving themselves to the lie.
22. **Principle:** Know the enemy! Learn its objectives! If underwritten by evil, then reject its legitimacy. Example: Black Live Matter has intimidated millions of people in this country. It is a terrorist organization with communism as its stated agenda. The same goes for Antifa which is an oxymoron. It is not opposed to fascism, it is fascist, which “exalts nationalism above the individual, centralized autocratic government headed by a dictator, economic socialism, and forcible suppression of opposition.”³
23. The question believers must ask themselves: Is the invisible reality of God’s integrity greater than the reality you face?

Philippians 2:15 ... prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world.

24. This the widow did by immediately buying into what Elijah had told her:

1 King 17:15 So she went and did according to the word of Elijah, and she and her household ate for many days.

v. 16 The bowl of flour was not exhausted nor did the jar of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke through Elijah.

Principles:

1. The drought did not cancel the divine provision of logistical grace at the widow’s house. No event in God’s creation can override His promises, His omnipotence, or His grace. The integrity of God is sacrosanct and His Word is immutable.

(End RECK-20.05. See RECK-20.06 for continuation of study at p. 51.)

³ Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed. (2014), s.v. fascism.”

