

# Supply

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Text: Philippians 4:19

*And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

## INTRODUCTION:

What does supply mean to you? To each of us supply has a different meaning. To one in need of a heart transplant, supply is a donor! To one who is lonely and facing depression, supply is a kind word and friendly neighbor! To that one who is facing death in the desert, supply is a drink of cool water! The list could go on and on but the important thing is that God is available to be our supplier! He does it all through his Son Jesus and his abundant riches!

So how do we become confident that God will supply our need? How do we receive his supply when it appears to come in such unique ways! Let's look at a very old and powerful story of God's supply!

- 1 Kings 17:1-6

*And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."*

<sup>2</sup> *Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying,*

<sup>3</sup> *"Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.*

<sup>4</sup> *And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."*

<sup>5</sup> *So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.*

<sup>6</sup> *The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook.*

- There are some wonderful lessons to learn from this story!

**I. CHANGE IS NEVER SUDDEN TO GOD! (v.7)**

- God is always busy working in our lives!

*And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.*

- The effects of the drought finally come to the man of God!
- So what does God do?

**A. GOD SPEAKS! (V.8)**

*Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying,*

- Our supply is connected to the Word of the Lord!

**B. HE REDIRECTS ELIJAH'S LIFE! (V.9)**

*“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”*

- God is a work not only in our lives but those whom we will touch!

**C. HE HONORS HIS WORD! (V.10)**

*So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.”*

- Elijah's supply was right where God said she would be!

**II. YOUR MIRACLE WILL ALWAYS BE ATTACHED TO THE RELEASE OF FAITH! (V.11)**

*And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”*

- God used His prophet to engage her faith!

A. THIS WOMAN CANNOT SEE BEYOND HER NEED! (V.12)

<sup>12</sup> *So she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”*

1. All she can see is her need!
2. Need has a way of dominating our eyesight!
3. Faith demands that we ignore what we see and believe God!

B. ELIJAH OFFERS HER HOPE! (V.13)

*And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son.*

1. Elijah tells her not to fear!
2. He tells her to go and do what you plan but make an extra cake!
3. God does not want to take what you have! He wants to extend what you have!

C. ELIJAH ALLOWS THE ANOINTING TO MOVE UPON HIM AND TO DECLARE PROVISION! (V.14)

*For thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.’”*

1. God had a word for her!

2. Plenty of supply, until the times get better!
3. God is the God of supply and He stands ready to take care of us!

**III. WHEN WE ACT UPON OUR FAITH IN GOD, GOD WILL BEGIN TO ACT LIKE GOD! (V.15 & 16)**

*So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days.*

<sup>16</sup> *The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah.*

- Notice the actions of this woman?
  1. She did according to the word of Elijah!
  2. She and her household ate for many days!
  3. Her flour bin was not used up and the jar of oil did not run dry!
- **All this happened according to the Word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah!**