

2 Kings 4

Chapter 4 of 25 · 44 Verses · Authorized King James Version

The Widow's Oil

¹ Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.

² And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.

³ Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.

⁴ And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

⁵ So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out.

⁶ And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

⁷ Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

The Shunammite Woman's Son

⁸ And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread.

9 And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually.

10 Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither.

11 And it fell on a day, that he came thither, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there.

12 And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunammite. And when he had called her, she stood before him.

13 And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? wouldest thou be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host? And she answered, I dwell among mine own people.

14 And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi answered, Verily she hath no child, and her husband is old.

15 And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door.

16 And he said, About this season, according to the time of life, thou shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid.

17 And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life.

18 And when the child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers.

19 And he said unto his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother.

20 And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died.

21 And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out.

22 And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again.

23 And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

24 Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee.

25 So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite:

26 Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well.

27 And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the LORD hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

28 Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

29 Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child.

30 And the mother of the child said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And he arose, and followed her.

31 And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor hearing. Wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awaked.

32 And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed.

33 He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the LORD.

34 And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and he stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm.

35 Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.

36 And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto him, he said, Take up thy son.

37 Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

Death in the Pot

38 And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets.

39 And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them not.

40 So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof.

41 But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot.

Feeding of a Hundred

42 And there came a man from Baal-shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat.

43 And his servitor said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof.

44 So he set it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the LORD.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Prophet — נָבִיא (Navi)

Prophet, spokesman

The Hebrew **navi** (נָבִיא) means prophet—one who speaks God's word to the people. Prophets received divine revelation and declared God's message, often calling Israel to repentance and foretelling future events.

Holy — קָדוֹשׁ (Qadosh)

Holy, set apart

The Hebrew **qadosh** (קָדוֹשׁ) means holy or set apart—separated from common use for God's purposes. God is 'the Holy One of Israel,' utterly distinct from creation in moral perfection.

Word — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

CROSS REFERENCES

2 Kings 4:1 **Prophecy:** 2 Kings 2:3. **References Lord:** Matthew 18:25. **Parallel theme:** Malachi 4:2; Revelation 19:5

2 Kings 4:2 **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 17:12; Acts 3:6; James 2:5

2 Kings 4:3 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 81:10; John 2:7; 16:24

2 Kings 4:4 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 6:6

2 Kings 4:5 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 5:11

2 Kings 4:6 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 13:19; Matthew 14:20; Luke 6:19

2 Kings 4:8 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 19:3; Joshua 19:18; Judges 19:20; 2 Samuel 19:32; 1 Kings 1:3; Job 1:3; 32:9; Proverbs 7:21; Luke 24:29; Acts 16:15

2 Kings 4:9 **References God:** 2 Kings 4:7; 1 Kings 17:24; 1 Thessalonians 2:10. **Holy:** Titus 1:8

2 Kings 4:10 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 25:40; Romans 12:13; Hebrews 10:24

2 Kings 4:12 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 3:11; 1 Kings 18:43; 19:3; Acts 13:5

2 Kings 4:13 **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 19:13; Psalms 37:3; Romans 16:2; 16:6; Hebrews 6:10; 13:5

2 Kings 4:14 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:17; 25:21; 30:1; Judges 13:2; 1 Samuel 1:2; 1:8; Luke 1:7

2 Kings 4:16

Parallel theme: Genesis 17:21; 18:10; 1 Kings 18:9; Psalms 116:11; Luke 1:13. **References Lord:** 2 Kings 2:19; 4:28. **References God:** 1 Kings 17:18

2 Kings 4:17 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 21:1; Psalms 113:9; Luke 1:36; Hebrews 11:11

2 Kings 4:18 **Parallel theme:** Ruth 2:4

2 Kings 4:21 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 4:32

2 Kings 4:23 **Parallel theme:** Numbers 10:10; 28:11; 1 Chronicles 23:31

2 Kings 4:25 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 2:25

2 Kings 4:26 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 17:18; Acts 15:36

2 Kings 4:27 **References Lord:** Genesis 18:17; 2 Samuel 7:3

2 Kings 4:28 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 30:1

2 Kings 4:29

Parallel theme: 2 Kings 2:8; 2:14; 9:1; Exodus 4:17; 14:16; 1 Kings 18:46; Luke 10:4; Acts 3:16; 19:12

2 Kings 4:30 **References Lord:** 2 Kings 2:2; 2:4

2 Kings 4:31 **Parallel theme:** John 11:11

2 Kings 4:33 **Prayer:** Matthew 6:6; Acts 9:40. **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 4:4; Luke 8:51

2 Kings 4:34 **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 17:21; Acts 20:10

2 Kings 4:35 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 8:5; 13:21

2 Kings 4:36 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 11:35

2 Kings 4:37 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 11:35

2 Kings 4:38 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 2:1; 8:1; Leviticus 26:26; Luke 10:39; Acts 22:3.
Prophecy: 2 Kings 2:3

2 Kings 4:40 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 15:23; Mark 16:18. **References God:** Exodus 10:17

2 Kings 4:41 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 2:21; Exodus 15:25

2 Kings 4:42

References God: 1 Samuel 9:7. **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 7:1; 1 Samuel 9:4; John 6:9; 6:13

2 Kings 4:43 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 14:20; 15:37; Mark 8:20; Luke 9:13; 9:17; John 6:9

