

# 2 Kings 4:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

**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.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 4: God's compassionate power through His prophet. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 4 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Elisha's Miracles of Provision and Life) reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical

account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## Related Passages

## 1 Corinthians 13:4 – Characteristics of love

## **John 15:13 — Greatest form of love**

## Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 4 regarding god's compassionate power through his prophet?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

מִכֶּר יְלִכִּי	וְיִמְרָא	בְּאֱלֹהִים	לֹא יְשִׁׁיגֶד	וְיַבְּאֶת אֶת
<b>Then she came</b>	<b>and told</b>	<b>the man</b>	<b>of God</b>	<b>And he said</b>
H935	H5046	H376	H430	H559
				H1980
				<b>sell</b>
				H4376
תְּחִי יְבִנֵּי	וְאַתָּה נְשִׁׁים כִּי	אַתָּה יְשִׁׁלְמֵי	בְּשָׁמְןִי	בְּנֵי יִצְחָק
H853	<b>the oil</b>	<b>and pay</b>	H853	<b>thy debt</b>
H8081	H7999	H5386	H859	<b>thou and thy children</b>
				H1121
				<b>and live</b>
				H2421

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