

THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT

Time For an Oil Drive

Pastor Kenneth Jones/PLM



SCRIPTURE FOR THIS LESSON

2nd Kings 4:1-7:

One day the widow of a member of the group of prophets came to Elisha and cried out, “My husband who served you is dead, and you know how he feared the LORD. But now a creditor has come, threatening to take my two sons as slaves.” ² “What can I do to help you?” Elisha asked. “Tell me, what do you have in the house?” “Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil,” she replied. ³ And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. ⁴ Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled.” ⁵ So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. ⁶ Soon every container was full to the brim! “Bring me another jar,” she said to one of her sons. “There aren’t any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing. ⁷ When she told the man of God what had happened, he said to her, “Now sell the olive oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on what is left over.”

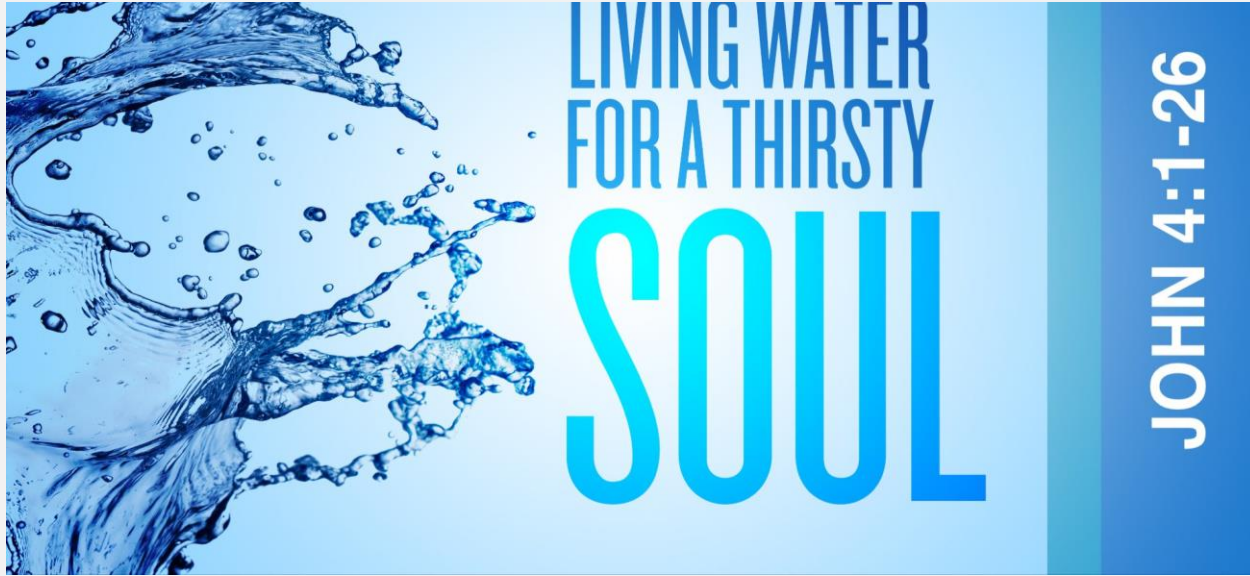
PEOPLE COUGH UP \$38 FOR 'UNFILTERED HOT DOG WATER' AT FESTIVAL



The drink, which comes in a sleek glass bottle filled with water and a single hot dog, is “keto compatible” and will help the drinker “lose weight, increase brain function, look younger, [and] increase vitality,” the sign at the Hot Dog Water booth claims.

This was a marketing stunt, but the vendor said he sold 60 liters worth of the products. Amazon.com has had over 1M requests to buy this water

JESUS OFFERS LIVING WATER



As I pondered this story, I thought about Jesus at the well with the Samaritan woman in John, chapter four. Jesus offered the woman, “living water,” where one would never thirst again. He still offers it today. Jesus said that this water will make you well, give you everlasting life, heal you, you will never thirst again and most of all, it’s free!

Yet how many of people reject this living water because it will require a life change, lack of faith in the product, and it seems so good to be true. There are no miracle cures or pills that will answer all of our ills, but if we draw from the well of living water, we will receive life leading to everlasting life.

With this Living Water:

You will never thirst again

It will make you well

You can have eternal life

Best of all...

It's Free!

Yet, many will say.....

I have no need of this living water



PART I: “I HAVE A NEED!”

2nd Kings 4:1-3: One day the widow of a member of the group of prophets came to Elisha and cried out, “My husband who served you is dead, and you know how he feared the LORD. But now a creditor has come, threatening to take my two sons as slaves.”
2 “What can I do to help you?” Elisha asked. “Tell me, what do you have in the house?”
“Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil,” she replied.



HAVING NEED

- **The Widow had a desperate need –
To pay a debt**
- The only thing in her possession is a pot of oil, but it wasn't "cooking oil"
- **In order to begin to help this widow in need, Elijah had to first determine what she had**
- **What do you have?**



ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE

- It could be what one may have at their house is the source of their dilemma
- What if the prophet had asked, “What is going on at your house?” and the answer was, “I’ve got bitterness, unforgiveness, anger issues,” then you will have to take a different approach



HAVING NEED

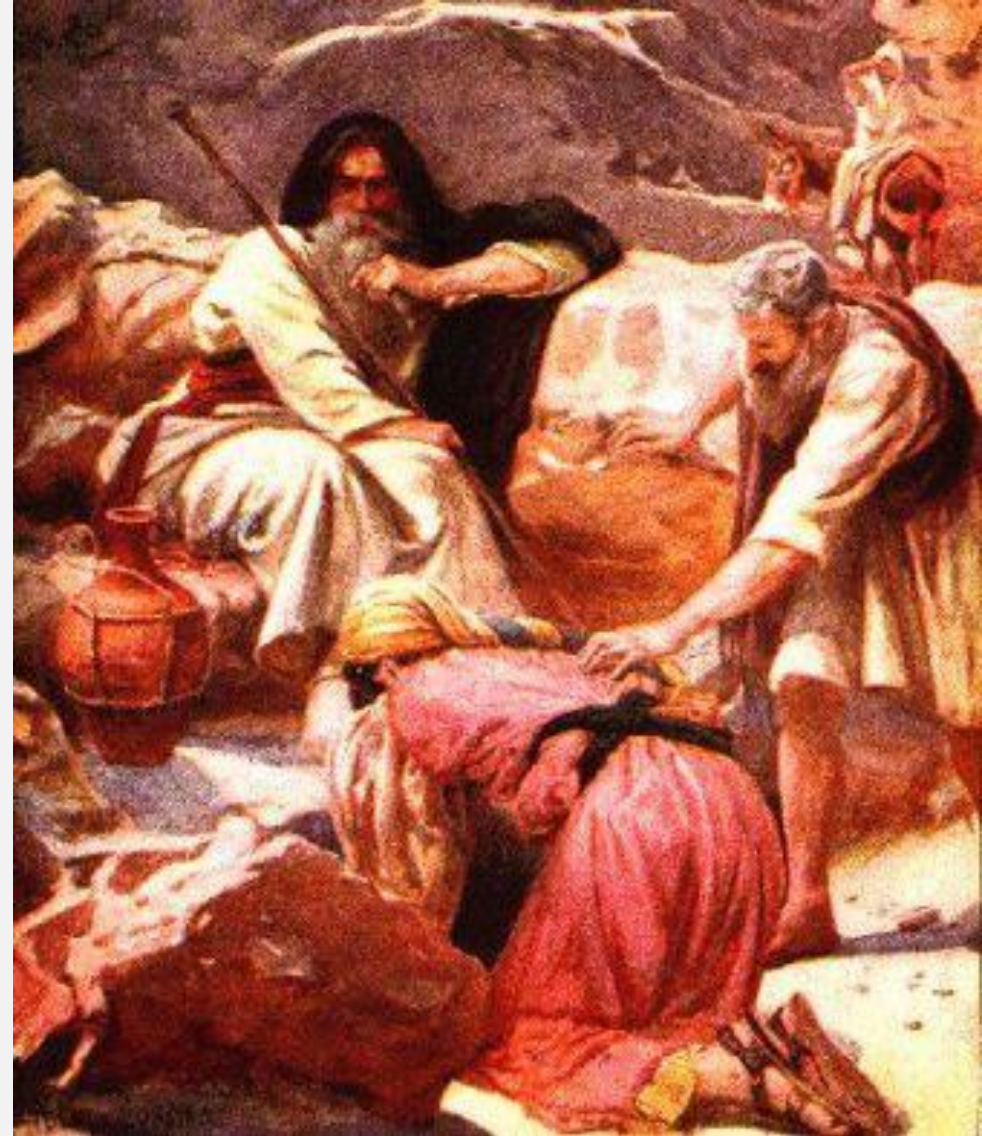
- **The Widow had a desperate need – To pay a debt**
- The only thing in her possession is a pot of oil, but it wasn't "cooking oil"
- **A pot of oil** - Or, "an anointing of oil" - so much oil, as would serve me for one anointing of my person.
- **In order to begin to help this widow in need, Elijah had to first determine what she had**
- At times, before we minister to people, it would be good to know what they have, what capability or knowledge they possess that could help facilitate deliverance, or meeting the need

THE STORY

Her husband, a godly man and a servant of Elisha, had died, leaving a large mountain of debt behind him. His widow had apparently sold all their meager possessions in her attempts to stay ahead of the creditors. But the day eventually came when she had nothing left to sell.

The creditor was demanding that her two sons be sold into slavery to satisfy the debts which remained. Now she must have laid awake nights, her mind trying to solve this problem. But no solution could be found. The solution came when she took her problem to Elisha, the prophet of God.

The Jewish Bible noted that she did not complain about social justice, but her financial condition



ELIJAH'S INSTRUCTIONS

- He didn't give her a single coin.
- **His advice:** Go gather up a bunch of empty jars from your neighbors, and then pour that little bit of oil that you have into those empty jars. **(GO & POUR)**
 - (God is saying that today: Go and pour out of your spirit what God has placed in you.
- **Elijah was a prophet:** Elisha was walking so close to God, that when he heard God's promptings – however they came to Him – he spoke what he heard. He knew it was God's voice

Have we become afraid of prophetic utterances?

PART TWO: ELIJAH'S INSTRUCTIONS

“This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God’s weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.”

1 Corinthians 1:25

Sometimes you have to be ready to do the ridiculous to receive your blessing or see your vision fulfilled



GO & POUR

2nd Kings 4:3: 2 Kings 4:3 -
Then he said, "Go, borrow
vessels at large for yourself
from all your neighbors,
even empty vessels; do not
get a few.



“Do not get a few – When God
is urging you or leading you by
His Spirit, don’t limit what God
is able to accomplish by your
expectations, speculations, or
experiences



**Sometimes God may ask us to do something out
of obedience and faith with no clarity of end
results**

POINT OF EMPHASIS

How many times when the vision is mentioned that some of us begin to limit it with our imaginations or speculations of what or how we think it should be?

The prophet did not provide a lot of detail and didn't explain to her how to accomplish it, but was a directive – **She responded with obedience**

Sometimes people get so caught up in processes, thinking that they can't move without so much training or preparation.
Sometimes simple obedience will do

EMPTY VESSELS

The widow and her sons represents the world.

Ever since the Lord had Moses anoint Aaron with special oil in creating the Levitical Priesthood, oil has traditionally been used to symbolize the Holy Spirit.

And the empty jars stand for unregenerate people who are desiring to be filled, but only filled with cares, hatred, bitterness, lust, and lawlessness

They need the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to flow through their lives bringing them salvation, redemption, fruit, and God's life giving source

AND WHEN THOU ART COME IN,....

- Thou shall shut the door upon thee, and upon thy sons; **Why?**
- That they might be alone in the house while the miracle was working; that they might not be interrupted in what they were about to do
- **There are times you have to shut yourself away and not let everyone know what you are doing**
 - Elijah didn't want the creditors to know- others who may speak against it or take advantage of it
 - You also have to watch out for vision killers and those who would come to steal away your blessings

POUR INTO THE VESSELS

**They brought
the vessels to
her;** the empty
ones she had
borrowed: and
she poured
out; the oil out
of her pot into
them.



As she poured
into the pots,
they kept
bringing the
vessels to her



Beware of
having an one
item prayer
list. Just don't
put everything
in one pot.



We should
always be
about bringing
vessels to be
filled with
saving power
of Christ



THE OIL STOPPED FLOWING WHEN THERE WERE NO MORE VESSELS

- **When we stop bringing vessels** – stop witnessing, praying, interceding, God's Spirit stops flowing
- God fills only what we offer Him to fill
- If we don't stay vigilant, inviting others, ministering to others, praying and interceding, then expect the flow of the Spirit to stop not only in this church, but in your lives as well



PUT A LID ON IT

We have the treasure of the gospel;
the rich and invaluable truths which
we are called to preach to others.

We can't allow the world, our
circumstances, to keep us from
fulfilling the Great Commission
God entrusted to us

Putting a Lid on the Spirit of God
from flowing continuously in our
lives will impact us spirit, soul, and
body



Baptist Bible Hour

We have this treasure
in *earthen vessels*,
that the excellency of
the power may be of God,
and not of us. - 2 Corinthians 4:7

PUT A LID ON IT

So many churches and religions knowingly or unknowingly are trying to put a “lid” on the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Thanks be to God, No matter what the world system/Satan/traditions of men may do, There will always be a release of the Spirit of God

The Spirit of God continues to outpours whether you receive it or not.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PUT A LID ON IT?

- **Loss of spiritual desire.** The first warning sign of attack is a loss of spiritual desire to do the things that our spirit craves to do
 - Romans 1:9: For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;
- **Physical Fatigue – Feeling tired and physically weak**
 - Keep in mind that we are created beings—spirit, soul, and body. If my body is weak, it allows things to get into my mind (soul), and that allows things to negatively affect my spirit.
 - Many times we face our greatest attacks just before a great promotion or just after a great victory.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PUT A LID ON IT?

- **Experiencing “Lack”** - There are times when it seems that all of your resources dry up at the same time.
 - The enemy attacks in this to get you to take your eyes off of God and put your eyes on money.
- **Weak prayer & worship life. Our intimate time with God wanes**
 - "Could you not watch with Me one hour?" Jesus asked His disciples. Then He told them, "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:40-41).
- **Old habits and lifestyles resurface** - Old iniquities begin to resurface in your life.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PUT A LID ON IT?

You begin to feel overwhelmed and helpless.

- Are you feeling overwhelmed by circumstances?
- The word *circumstance* comes from two words: *circum* (encircle) and *stance* (stand). In other words, you are standing encircled by what's going on.
- "Hope deferred makes the heart sick" (Prov. 13:12)

Pulling away from godly relationships

- Are you out of fellowship with God and church?
- Are more and more of your friends carnally minded rather than spiritually minded?



HOW DO I KEEP THE OIL FLOWING?

- **Keep Filling Up – Stay and Live in the Spirit**
 - "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; **but ever be filled** and stimulated with the [Holy] Spirit." [Eph 5:18](#) AMP
 - Being Filled with the Spirit means a “constant filling
 - **How do you do that?**
 - Walk in the Spirit, Pray in the Spirit, Abide in God’s Presence
 - **Ephesians 5:19** - Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

HOW DO I KEEP THE OIL FLOWING

- **Keep Pouring Out to Others**
 - Stop Making Excuses on Why You Can't Serve or Minister
 - Start Where You Are – In Your Home, With Your Family & Friends, In Church
 - Are you serving? Are you sharing? Are you supplicating for others?
 - The more you pour out, the more you create space for God to pour more into you

POURING INTO OTHERS

- Water/Oil flows in the direction it is poured – Follow the Spirit's leading as you pour into others
- Don't claim the Spirit's leading if the Spirit is not pouring
- The amount that we give to God – that amount that we make available to Him, that's the amount that God will bless. That's the amount that God will use.

IT'S TIME FOR AN OIL DRIVE

T.O.D.A.Y.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| T rust in | Trust in God in times of Need |
| O bey | Obey His Word and His prophets |
| D on't limit | Don't limit Him with your expectations |
| A ccept | Accept God's Promises as He provides |
| Y ield | Yield to His Spirit to be free from the yoke of bondage |

