

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Sermon by Rev. Nathan Ondego on 12th March 2023

2kings 4:1-2

what to do hen you don't know what to do

IT IS IN THE BIBLE.

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."

²Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?"

"Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a small jar of olive oil."

Some are in that very place today! If you are not there yet you will soon be there, You are at the end of your rope and there is a long drop beneath you and you do not know what to do.

- What do you do when you are facing problems with your children that you cannot solve?
- What do you do when your marriage is on the rocks and the crashing waves of hopelessness are unrelenting?
- What do you do when there are problems at work and it seems that there is no way out?
- What do you do when you have too much month left at the end of your money?
- What do you do when you have followed a loved one's body to the graveyard and you cannot escape the loneliness, the grief and the pain?
- What do you do when your heart is broken, your dreams are shattered and your hopes have been dashed to bits on the cruel rocks of reality?
- What do you do when you are walking through a spiritual wasteland and there seems to be no way out?

P . T . O.

A. **There Was Despair In Her Family** – The word "***cried***" means "***to moan; to weep uncontrollably; to shriek out of grief.***" This word identifies the sound of a broken heart. This woman comes to the man of God at the lowest moment of her life. She is in desperate straits! (Ill. Have you ever been there?)

B. **There Was Death In Her Family** – She was married to one of the “*sons of the prophets*”.

These were the men who were in training under Elisha to be the prophets and preachers in Israel. Her husband, her lover, her friend, her provider, her protector, had been taken away from here in death. She is broken because a loved one has been taken away. (III. Have you ever been there?)

C. **There Was Debt In Her Family** – Since her husband is dead she cannot pay her bills. As a result, her creditors are coming to take her sons away as slaves so they can work off the debt. This was allowed under the Jewish Law, **Lev. 25:39**. She has been deprived of her husband, now she is about to lose her sons as well. She is over her head in debt and she doesn't see how she can make it. (III. Have you ever been there?)

D. **There Was Devotion In Her Family** – In spite of all her problems, she is still held firm in the grip of faith! She needs help, but she does not turn to her family or her friends. She does not try to find someone to loan her more money. In her desperation she turns to the man of God for help. Elisha was God's representative on earth and he was her best hope. She reminds Elisha that her husband “*did fear the Lord.*”

- At some point, every person in this room is going to arrive at that low point of life. There will come a day when you will reach the end of your rope. Some have already been through it and can testify about it. Others are there right now and are looking for some help. Others will arrive there someday. We will all have our days of trouble and trial, **Job 14:1; John 16:33**.
- When you reach that point, the world, the flesh and the devil are all going to tell you that God doesn't see and that He doesn't care. The fact is, He does see, **Pro. 15:3; 2 Chr. 16:9**. He sees everything you are facing. Not a single thing is hidden from His view.