

SERMON NOTES

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GOD OUR PROVIDER

Based on **1 Kings 17 (NIV)** - God faithfully provides for His people, even in the most difficult seasons, when they trust and obey His Word.

1. **Elijah Announces the Drought - 1 Kings 17:1**

- Elijah declares that there will be no rain except by the word of the Lord.
- The drought was God's judgment against Israel's idolatry.

2. **God Provides at the Brook Cherith - 1 Kings 17:2-6**

- God tells Elijah to hide by the Brook Cherith.
- He drinks from the brook.
- Ravens miraculously bring him bread and meat every morning and evening.

3. **The Brook Dries Up - 1 Kings 17:7-10**

- Eventually the brook dries up because of the drought.
- God sends Elijah to Zarephath, where He has already appointed a widow to care for him.

4. **The Widow's Test of Faith - 1 Kings 17:11-12**

- The widow obeys Elijah's request for water.
- Elijah then asks for bread.
- She explains that she has only enough flour and oil for one final meal for herself and her son before they expect to die.

5. **Faith Brings God's Provision - 1 Kings 17:13-16**

- Elijah tells her:
 - "Do not fear."
 - "Make me a small cake first."
- God promises that the flour and oil will not run out until the rain returns.
- The widow obeys.
- Result:
 - The flour never ran out.
 - The oil never failed.
 - God sustained the household throughout the famine.

6. **God Gives Life - 1 Kings 17:17-24**

- The widow's son becomes sick and dies.
- Elijah carries the boy to the upper room.
- He prays, and God restores the child's life.
- The widow recognizes Elijah as a true man of God.