

The LORD Will Provide

by **Thelma Mabry**



The only time the Hebrew name Jehovah-Jireh is mentioned in the Bible is in Genesis 22:14, as the LORD provided a ram for the sacrifice instead of Isaac. In verse 14, “And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” (NKJV)

The LORD always provides what we need and what is best for us; especially that which is needed to maintain a good relationship with Him. As we think about all the LORD has provided for us from the creation to the sacrifice of His only Son, we as a people have not always liked or wanted what has been provided or the way it was provided.

As a people, we were not satisfied with the vast array of food in the Garden of Eden; we were totally disappointed with just manna in the wilderness, and five loaves and two fish were a snack for two people at most.

Maybe we have two problems. We are not always satisfied with “what” the provision is, or at times, “how” it is provided. For example, In I Kings 17:4-6, God commanded the ravens to bring Elijah bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening. He was also told to drink water from the brook. I’ve drunk water from a stream before, therefore, that part doesn’t bother me. The part of the provision that bothers me has to do with the manner of delivery. Did you ever wonder how the ravens brought the food to Elijah? Was it in their beak or their talons? Where did the ravens get the food in the first place? I can’t think of any method of delivery by the ravens that would be appealing to my appetite.

Did the LORD provide? Absolutely! Have you and I missed provisions by the LORD because of how they were delivered? Probably!

Another example, which to me is very illogical, is in II Kings 4:1-7. A woman’s husband had died and left her with debts to pay. The creditors have sent letters, tried harassing telephone calls (modern day version), and now they are coming to get her sons to be their slaves to settle the debt.

The woman goes to Elisha for assistance to get the creditors off her back and to save her sons from slavery. Elisha asked her “what do you have in your house?”

She states she has only a jar of oil. Would you have responded “nothing” to that question if all you had was a jar of oil? I probably would have.

Elisha tells her to borrow vessels from everywhere; from all her neighbors and do not gather just a few. The woman followed these very illogical instructions. She was desperate. She wanted to save her sons and she knew she was talking to the man of God. She did not have time for logic.

Once the vessels were gathered, she was told to go into her house, shut the door, and pour the oil from the full jar into the empty jars. She was told to set aside the full jars. Once the jars were full, she reported it to Elisha. He told her to sell the oil and pay her debts and she and her sons live on the rest. How is it possible to go from a jar of oil as your only asset to having enough money to pay off your debts and you and yours sons live on the rest. Logically, you cannot. However, she was following an all powerful God who owns everything.

Once again, the LORD provided. Would you have tried the solution offered by Elisha?

In Hebrews 11:6, it states, “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (NKJV) This woman obviously believed in God and believed He would reward her for her faithfulness.

This is also an example of Hebrews 11:1, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” The widow was “hoping” for a solution to her problem with the creditors and she clearly could not “see” how Elisha’s proposed solution was going to solve her problem.

Do you really believe the LORD will provide? If so, accept “what” He provides in whatever “way” He provides.