

## Death in the Pot



The Lord's ways are hard for us to imagine in our frail humanity. His answer to death is always life. He always sees outside the box, for He is immortal and eternal. We only see what is within our reach, because we are earthly. But because we have been joined to Jesus and have His life and Holy Spirit in us, we can comprehend His ways that are so much higher than our ways!

### **Elisha = God is Salvation**

*2 Kings 4:30-38*

There was a “dearth” in the land, a famine. There was a scarceness of grain. The school of prophets were gathered together, 100 are spoken of and they were hungry. They gathered gourds from a wild vine not realizing it was poisonous. That is what we do automatically in a spiritual famine, we start reaching for other vines than Jesus, wild earthly vines to fulfill us. We don't realize in our hunger that it is poisonous and will kill us. We go to other sources for sustenance. But this is so beautiful, even though they did that and found death in the pot, or death in the earthen vessel, death in ourselves, God saves them and uses Elisha to add meal to it. When he put the meal in, which is flour or grain, the pottage became edible. In the middle of a famine and lack, the man of God had enough flour to put in the pot. Those who dwell in Christ in the heavens will never hunger or thirst (Revelation 7:16)! Just like the beginning of this chapter when the woman ready to give up her two sons to pay her debt, and he tells her to take her last cruse of oil and start pouring it into empty vessels. She has so much oil once she starts pouring out that the village runs out of vessels for her! This is completely opposite of how we think, when we're lacking, in spiritual dryness, we want to keep it for ourselves, try to survive, but we should pour out the little bit we have into empty vessels and we will be full to overflowing! Like sowing in famine, pouring the Jesus that is in us out, no matter how small it seems to start with, will be a gushing river of life, when we pour into others!

Elisha is representing Jesus here in many ways. He was born in Galilee, and worked many of the same miracles. He was a shadow of Christ, Romans says the prophets foretold of Him. Being a type of Christ and the disciples, he breaks the 20 loaves of

bread and ears of corn and feeds it to the whole school (John 6:9). He raised the Shunamite's dead son and manifested God's salvation to Israel at the time, complete supernatural salvation. There is always life in Jesus, no matter what is going on in the earth, or our own lives. He said in *John 6:33*, "I am the bread of life." He gave His life to add life into our vessels that would eat up the death. That is always His answer, more of Him and less of us.

*2 Cor. 5:1-5* "...not that we would be unclothed but clothed upon"

We groan to be clothed upon with Christ, not just doing away with the bad. This walk is not about pulling off bad fruit, or extracting all the poison. That would be impossible. A little leaven, leavens the whole lump. But if the firstfruit is holy, so is the whole batch (Romans 11:16-17). WE CANNOT GET THE DEATH OUT OF OURSELVES BUT JESUS CAN ADD LIFE!!!! When we suck our sources from the vine of Adam, we get death, but when we abide/or get our resources nutrients from Christ, then He produces life in us. This is a supernatural concept that is hard for us to imagine. This is about Him having a Bride after His kind, not about becoming perfect and feeling better about ourselves, that is a selfish motive. Instead of focusing on ourselves and trying to clean up every area (which is a waste of time, for a new one pops up as soon as we think we've conquered one), we just need to add Jesus to the pot!

In 2 Kings 2:19, Elisha heals the bitter waters by throwing a stick in it. That is a type of the cross, the ground was good, but the water was killing everything. That is us with our old man, the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. When we see death in ourselves, there is no way to heal it but to add Jesus. The answer is the cross. Throw Jesus in it, and His life will permeate everything and make us a fresh spring, of drinkable water! The same as Moses in the wilderness, Exodus 15:22-25.

James 3:6-12 He speaks of bitter waters coming from our mouth because we can't control our tongue. James points out the problem and says there can't be sweet and bitter water flowing from one fountain. But Paul gives us the solution to that problem in *Romans 3:10-26* "...whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness...being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus".

bitter gall

- a) extreme wickedness
- b) a bitter root, and so producing a bitter fruit
- c) metaph. bitterness, bitter hatred

The "stick" or "meal" we throw in our pot, our earthen vessel is faith in Christ as our life, our justifier, our redeemer, our righteousness, everything from Him and through Him. This is our only hope: to add meal to the pot, to add Jesus. He will turn that bitter mind/tongue/heart into sweet waters through His own nature in us! We cannot do it on our own, but His life in us can!

Numbers 21:3-9 Israel in the wilderness were all bit by serpents, they all had poison in them, the physical manifesting their spiritual state of cursing God. But even then, God provides! He tells Moses to lift one up on a pole, and whoever looks on it will be saved. That is a definite picture of the cross, Christ coming to earth as a man, taking upon Him

all of our sin nature and then nailing it to the cross, and when we plead the blood and His death for the forgiveness of our sins we are saved!

The answer is always more of Jesus!!! There is no condemnation; there is death in us, but life is found in Him. Let's not look at ourselves or try to fix ourselves anymore, but add Jesus to the pot and trust Him to take us from death to life!