

The Power of Prosperity 1 Kings 17.1-16

December 18, 2011

Jesus Calling

A critical part of understanding Kingdom is spending personal time with Christ – everyday. We do this through prayer, fasting (which will do corporately in January) and devotions. For our consecration next year, I've selected a book called Jesus Calling as our book to read as a church body. I can't recall if this is the first time, but know that if it isn't, it has been a long time since I've selected a devotional book as the book for us to read as a church during devotion. And I selected this book for this reason (read the devotion for that day) and also to help us keep in the habit to use devotions as a way to spend quiet time with Christ.

This book is available today in our satellite location, as well at our bookstore. We also have a few copies for children.

Review from Wednesday, December 7

Three moves toward biblical prosperity

1. Humility 2. Worship 3. Pure Heart

Review from Sunday, December 11

1. Prosperity is the ability to give to God and others as you desire and still be able to take care of you and your family's needs.

- We cannot define prosperity like the world
- We cannot pursue prosperity
- We cannot achieve prosperity

Joseph of Arimathea ends up with the sad job of arranging for Jesus burial. He would provide a wealthy man's tomb and by doing so fulfill the prophetic word that he would be buried in a borrowed tomb! He would also assure himself a permanent place in history.

2. Prosperity is a Set Up. Gen. 12.4,5

- God wants to prosper you to the extent that you build His kingdom. Phil. 4.10-13

3. Prosperity is how we plant Jesus!

- You were born to plant Jesus so He could grow in someone else. 2 Co. 5.20

4. Prosperity is how we produce resurrection. Luke 19 Zaccheus

The Power of Prosperity **1 Kings 17.1-16**

The widow of Zarephath is God's choice. The prophet has run out of options and now must go to a woman whose husband has died in order to be fed. His ministry, the prophetic word to Israel all comes down to the power of a poor woman's prosperity! But she's broke. Is she? But she has no resources...really?

The brook should have been the place. The river the brook emptied into should have been the place. But all the natural national resources were gone and the widow was all that was left.

1. Every time God moves He shifts wealth. Ex. 12.37

- The widow was about to experience a transfer!
- When the Israelites came out
- When Jesus was born in Bethlehem

Wise men came from the East with wealth to transfer to a poor Jewish family.

2. The Church has the power of prosperity! Mt. 5.14-16

Zarephath - a place where precious metals are refined

- We are the bride whose husband died!
- We are the widow who is least thought of for having the answer!
- We are responsible for making sure The Prophet gets the Word out!

3. You have the power of prosperity! Luke 18.22

The rich young ruler missed a shift!

- The Father has approached you after a major shift

This recession is a historical shift in wealth. Class wars in America who would have ever thought it!

- The Father only asks for what you have
- The Father has the power to provide until the famine ends

The widow of Zarephath was about to experience the aftermath of the shift from her hand to God's!