

1. Introduction

- a. Paul & Silas in Philippi (Acts 16:12-40)
- b. Well known verses in Philippians
 - Philp 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, ... let your requests be made known to God
 - Philp 4:7 And the peace of God will guard your hearts & minds...
 - Philp 4:8 Finally brethren whatever things are noble, pure, lovely... think on these things
 - Philp 4:11 I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content
 - Philp 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me
- c. Conclusion: Christian life is full of thinking & doing
 - while fully living life, God will supply all of your needs
 - * Christian life is not sitting around doing nothing

- d. Elisha & prophet's widow with miraculous jars of oil
 - continuing number of prophets during days of nation of Israel's apostasy
 - family had outstanding debt
 - creditors wanted to sell her 2 sons into slavery to settle the debt
 - she went to Elisha for help

2. Widow Woman Meets With Elisha

- a. Elisha asks, "What do you have in your house?"
 - she has nothing but 1 jar of oil
 - the cupboards are bare
 - nothing of value left
- b. God always works with what is in your hand (not what you don't have)
 - 1 Cor 8:5 First gave to the Lord
 - 2 Cor 8:12 Accepted according to what you have

3. Elisha's Solution

- a. Borrow empty jars from your neighbors
 - get many jars: as many as you can
- b. Pour oil into every empty jar
 - never-ending jar of household oil
 - she was to do this secretly behind closed doors
- c. Sell the oil in the marketplace
 - ordinary everyday activity
 - ordinary activity without attracting attention
- d. Pay off family debt

4. Widow woman followed Elisha's instructions

- a. She paid off the creditor & saved her sons from slavery
- b. God supplied the means to save her family

5. Facts

- a. Desperation of the widow
 - Ps 55:22 Throw your burden on the Lord
 - Prov 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart
 - Is 41:10 God will strengthen & help you
- b. Desire of the prophet Elisha
 - "What can I do for you?"
 - * implied "What can I do also?"
- c. Deliverance of the family
 - Neighbors set next to us for a reason (Prov 27:10)
 - time to borrow from the neighbors (with owner permission)
 - widow woman able to pour oil into jars
 - Lk 6:38 Give & it shall be given
 - * Measure out to others & later the same will be measured back to you