

GOD'S RAVEN FOOD SERVICE

During our last service, we began a new series entitled, The Life of Elijah, taken from (1 Kings 17:1) through (2 Kings 2:18). We studied how Elijah suddenly appearing before King Ahab as the national prophet of the North Kingdom with a message from the Lord God of Israel.

The message was that King Ahab must rid the nation of the demonic idolatry of Baal worship or God would bring the Second Cycle of Divine Discipline upon them. (Lev.26:18-20)

The Second Cycle of Divine Discipline was to shut the agricultural economy down immediately - **“There shall be neither dew nor rain, except by my word.” (1 Kings 17:1)**

As we read (1 Kings 17:2-6), we will divide it into two parts based on the phrase, “The word of the Lord.”

- Part one (1 Kings 17:2-4) “The word of the Lord came **to** Elijah.”
- Part two (1 Kings 17:5-6) “The word of the Lord went **with** Elijah.”

These show the importance of The Faith Cycle.

This lesson will study five aspects of God’s Raven Food Service to teach Logistical Grace to Spiritually Advancing Believers during a crisis.

1. King Ahab rejected Elijah’s message containing the Directive Will of God who is the supreme authority over the King.

In the Divine Chain of Command, it is the Lord God of Israel then the monarchy and then the citizens (Rom.13:1-7; 1 Tim.2:1-7; 1 Pet.2:13-17).

Doctrine: “There is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Therefore, whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God, and they who have opposed, will receive condemnation upon themselves.” (Rom.13:1b-2; Matt.22:17-22)

2. Because the King rejected the Directive Will of God, the North Kingdom was placed under the Second Cycle of Divine Discipline (Lev.26:18-20) [It shut down their economy].

(Lev.26:19) “**I will** also break down **your pride of power**; **I will** also make **your sky** like iron and **your earth** like bronze.

(Lev.26:21) “If then, **you act with hostility against Me** and are **unwilling to obey Me**, **I will** increase the plague on you seven times according to your sins.”

3. Then God turned His attention to the messenger as he left the King (1 Kings 17:2-6).

The Lord made two important doctrinal points of Logistical Grace to Elijah:

- (1 Kings 17:2-4) “the word of the Lord” God’s promise to Elijah.
- (1 Kings 17:5-6) “the word of the Lord” God’s grace provisions for Elijah

The Directive Will of God has three functional aspects that must line up.

- Geographical Will (1 Kings 17:3) Brook Cherith.
- Operational Will (1 Kings 17:3-5) Hide - he went and did according to the word of Lord.
- Mental Will (1 Kings 17:4-6) I have commanded the ravens to provide for you there.

4. The Directive Will of God involved His Logistical grace for Elijah.

Logistical grace is given to spiritually advancing believers by God to support the function of **His Directive Will** regarding **His Perfect Plan**.

(Phil.4:19) “And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

Question: What is God trying to teach the spiritually advancing believer by His Logistical Grace?

5. God is trying to teach two important doctrinal principles about Logistical Grace.

- **The Secret of contentment:**

(Phil.4:11-12) “Not that I speak from want, **for I have learned to be CONTENT in whatever circumstance I am. I know how** to get along with humble means, **and I also know how** to live in prosperity; **in any and every circumstance I have learned the SECRET** of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.”

(Matt.6:25-34) “For this reason I say to you, **do not be worried about your life**, *as to* what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, *as to* what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ **Look at the birds of the air**, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and *yet* your heavenly Father feeds them. **Are you not worth much more than they?** ²⁷ And who of you by being worried can add a *single* hour to his life? ²⁸ And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil, nor do they spin, ²⁹ yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! ³¹ Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ ³² For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ **But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.** ³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

- **God’s grace is always enough:**

(2 Cor.12:9-10) “And He said to me, ‘**My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.**’ Most gladly, **therefore**, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore, I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.”

These two doctrinal principles apply to all six stages of God’s grace.