



# GOD'S OFFENSIVE PROVISION

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# 1 Kings 17.1-16

<sup>1</sup>Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

<sup>2</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah: <sup>3</sup>“Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. <sup>4</sup>You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there.”

<sup>5</sup>So he did what the Lord had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there.

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<sup>6</sup>The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook. <sup>7</sup>Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. <sup>8</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to him: <sup>9</sup>“Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food.” <sup>10</sup>So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” <sup>11</sup>As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

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<sup>12</sup>“As surely as the Lord your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.” <sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord gives rain on the land.’ ”

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# 1 Kings 17.1-16

<sup>15</sup>She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. <sup>16</sup> For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

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# OUTLINE

God's provision is offensive:

- to us, because it runs out
- to Baal, because it exposes him
- to the proud, because it's by grace

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# CONCLUSION

God's provision to us is offensive and designed to ween us off our idols.

God will always provide for us in ways that make us more dependent on Him and less dependent on anything else.

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