

- 1 **“A Woman Of Victorious Faith”**
II Kings 4:8-37
- 2 **Important facts about the woman herself**
She was also spiritually rich
- 3
 - ✓ Rich in hospitality
 - ✓ Rich in wisdom & discernment and the courage to be different
 - ✓ Rich in meekness
 - ✓ Rich in contentment
 - ✓ Rich in wisdom
 - ✓ Rich in faith
 - ✓ Rich in stability, steadiness and perseverance
- 4 **Observation by A.W. Pink**
 - A spiritually discerning person is one who is regulated by God’s Word, - by divine revelation. I Cor. 2:15 says, “He that is spiritual judges (i.e. ‘discerns’) all things.” A person whose life is regulated by the precepts of Scripture is humble and meek. He/she accepts his lot in life [contentment] and obeys God’s Word. - Stubborn, self-willed departure from the Word of God clouds the vision! David said: “I understand more than the ancients because I Keep thy precepts” [Psa. 119:100].
- 5 **The meaning of the miracle of the birth of the woman’s son**
 - **A.W. Pink** suggests that the spiritual significance of this miracle becomes evident when we look at the larger context of this chapter [i.e. II Kings 4:1-7].
 - **The story of the first woman, the widow, is a typical picture of the miracle of redemption!**
- 6 **Pink’s explanation of the miraculous nature of Redemption**
 - “Redemption is received by faith; but before saving faith can be exercised, the soul must be quickened, for no one who is dead toward God can move toward Him. The same is true of our conversion, which is a right about-face, the soul turning from the world unto God. This is morally impossible until a miracle of grace has been wrought upon us: ‘**Turn thou me, and I shall be turned**’ (Jer. 31:18). Such a miracle as regeneration and conversion, whereby the soul enters into the redemption purchased by Christ is necessarily followed by one which shows the miraculous fruits of Redemption.”
- 7 The spiritual significance of the second miracle has to do with **the fruits of redemption**
 - **A.W. Pink:** “What then is the sequel of this [i.e. the first miracle]? Surely it is that which we find in the lives of the redeemed, namely, their bringing forth fruit unto God. This order of cause and effect is taught us in “**being made free from sin ...ye have your fruit unto holiness**” (Rom. 6:22 and cf. I Cor 6:20). ...” And this fruit is “... altogether supernatural, ‘the fruit of the Spirit,’ the manifestation of the graces of the new nature communicated by God at the new birth. Accordingly we have here the fruit of the womb, yet not the ordinary workings of nature, ... but that which transcends nature, which issues only from the wonder-working power of God.”
- 8 **What, precisely, is “the fruit of Redemption?”**
 - **Gal. 5:22** “... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

- **A. W. Pink** says the fruit of Redemption consists of: "Peace, joy, assurance, fellowship with God and His people, delight in His Word; liberty in prayer, separation from the world, and affections set on things above."

9 **How does the death of this woman's son relate to the fruit of Redemption?**

- **It is the inevitable experience of every true child of God that there will be periods of spiritual drought and deadness in the soul!**
- **Pink:** "How deeply mysterious the deadness which now rests upon the garden of God's planting ..." [i.e. like the mystery of the death of this woman's son, who was the gift of God to her! Why is he suddenly taken away?]

10 **Pink comments:**

- "And if the Christian who is aware of spiritual decays, of languishing graces, of his dire need of being renewed in the inner man, would experience a gracious reviving, then he should emulate this mother and do as she did. ... she did not faint in the day of trouble and indulge in self-pity; she did not bemoan her helplessness and say 'What can I do in the face of death?' And if she did not, why should you?"

11 **The stricken mother's response to this unexpected, sudden, and severe trial**

- **Note first what she did not do!!!**
 - ... wring her hands in despair and hopelessness
 - ... give in to inordinate grief and depression
 - ... murmur at the providence of God
- She "*sorrowed not as others who have no hope*" [I Thess. 4:13]
- **A.W. Pink:** "A godly woman may be staggered and stunned by a crushing affliction, but she will not give way under this blow to an evil heart of unbelief and become an avowed infidel or atheist!"

12 **Her actions in this moment of great difficulty indicate a response of faith!**

- She made no provision for a funeral or a burial!
- We see her immediately planning a trip to Mt. Carmel to call upon Elisha!
- She employed the reasoning of faith
- Her actions led to a miracle of faith
- "However **the providence of God** may disappoint us, we may be sure **the promise of God** never did, nor ever will deceive us: hope in what will not make us ashamed." - **Matthew Henry**

13 **The faith of this woman was not easily deterred**

- **The response of the woman's husband** seems to indicate 'irritability'!
- Elisha's servant, Gehazi, try's to pull her away when she falls down and takes hold of Elisha's feet.
- Elisha himself indicates that the Lord had left him in the dark as to what had happened
- **The lesson here** is that faith must not expect a smooth and easy path! True faith flourishes in times of stress and trial! It actually sees such circumstances as an opportunity to declare itself.

14 **A.W. Pink's summary of how this woman of faith responded**

- **She regarded this inexplicable and painful event as a testing of her faith, and she acted accordingly.**
- **She moved promptly. Without delay she carried the child upstairs and laid him on the prophet's bed, in anticipation of the Lord's showing Himself strong on her behalf.**
- **She responded in a vigorous and aggressive manner, going to some trouble in order to obtain relief, starting out on a long and difficult journey.**

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- **She clung to the original promise and refused to believe that God had ceased to be gracious.** [II Ki. 4:28]
- **She refused to be put off by Elisha's servant. She was determined because she knew this matter of faith was to important to be derailed by trivial obstacles and interference's.**
- **She persisted in counting upon the power of Elisha, who was her representative of**

God.

- 17 Christ's Complete Identification
With Us!