

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Thank you so much for visiting our website! Here is an excerpt of my notes from Pastor A.J.'s sermon, "WHEN THE BROOK DRIES UP"

We pray this Message will bless you the way it blessed us! Please come back again next week for more from "LaKesha's Pen" with another inspiring message from our Pastor.

Yours in Christ,

LaKesha Johnson-Lewis

WHEN THE BROOK DRIES UP...

1ST KINGS 17: 5-8

A life spent with God is an extraordinary life. Speaking from experience there is never a dull moment. God is always grooming you for better. He is always interested in taking you to the next level; helping you grow in Him to be everything He has created you to be. Where many people throw in the towel so to speak on God is in this fact; what makes you better sometimes doesn't feel better.

In **1st Kings 17:5-8**, you read about Elijah. Elijah was God's prophet. He spoke of things to come that God revealed to him. In the beginning of chapter 17 God had revealed to Elijah that there would be a great drought. After sharing this with Ahab God instructed Elijah to leave and go to Cherith. The word Cherith means cutting or shredding; so God sent Elijah to the place of cutting. At some point in your life you have been to your own Cherith. You found yourself in a place where God was doing some cutting. He allowed some people, some situations, and some difficulties to cut away at you. Cherith is a place everyone finds themselves at some point. This place can be lonely and you find yourself feeling isolated and all alone. Understand this as long as you are spending your life with God and you are staying within God's will God will always provide for you. In fact He promises in His Word that He will never leave us, nor forsake us, no not ever! (See **Hebrews**

13:5-6) Circumstances never trump God's provision. God will get you away from what is distracting you because this is a time to learn and to grow closer to Him. He is revealing Himself to you. What you have to get your mind rapped around is this; God can take care of you even when it seems like He can't!

Now the drought that was coming would last three and half years. When you spend your life with God no matter what may be happening around you, no matter whose president, no matter the economy and no matter what terror the news tries to incite God will always place His people in a situation of provision, in other words He will always provide. It may not be in the way we expect and may not be the way we suggest God to take care of it but He always provides! Don't be afraid to be alone with God and don't fear what He might say. You have been uniquely designed to fulfill your purpose. God created you to have a loving impact on the lives of those He has strategically positioned around you. Trust that whatever He asks you to do He has already equipped you to be able to handle it. He never sends you out without preparing you first.

Life with God is an exciting journey because God doesn't think as you think and God doesn't do as you would do. He is infinite in wisdom and creativity. (**See Colossians 2:2-3**) How do you respond when your brooks dries up? Elijah was sent to Cherith and God told him that He would have the ravens feed him but God did not reveal for how long. You may have found yourself in a place where God was taking care of you supernaturally and then all of a sudden your brook dried up. Elijah may have assumed that he would be there the entire three and half years. He may have assumed that God would just continue to provide this supernatural provision in Cherith. Elijah became use to the provision in the same manner that you may have become accustomed to the way God has been providing for you. What you must understand is that all situations you face are for a season. Everything has a time limit because life is constantly changing. The purpose God has created you for will always trump His provision and it will lead you into the next season of life. When your brook dries up it doesn't mean that God will no longer provide it just means there is a shift and change in how He will provide. It means He will provide in a new way. God is now finished with Cherith and He wants you to go to the next place of provision. God will often touch your circumstances in order to make you uncomfortable to get you to move on to the next place that He has for you. Somethings you wouldn't have left unless God

made it uncomfortable. If God hadn't made it uncomfortable you wouldn't have grown in trusting Him. If God hadn't made it uncomfortable you wouldn't have been able to hear Him. If God hadn't made it uncomfortable you wouldn't have made the commitment to Him. Commitment should be explained as an uncomfortable promise. You may feel this commitment is costing you more than what you are willing to pay for it. Commitment is not convenient and it's not always easy. Friendship cost you something because you are committed to helping your friends become better. The commitment we make to God is in trusting Him in the process. No matter what is going on we have to trust God to always provide. God will never do your part but He is faithful to do His part. As you read on in **1st Kings 17**, you discover that God was now moving Elijah to a new place. There is a widow in need and God wants to touch her and her son's life. Just like Elijah there are some lives that God can only touch through you.

When you can't see God working will you trust Him? When God is asking you to do something that your mind can not comprehend, will you trust Him? For God to send Elijah to a widow during a drought didn't make sense in the natural but no matter how you view the scriptures God's message is always the same trust Me to provide! The question you must ask yourself is am I only committed to the things of God or am I committed to God? Am I committed only to the promises of God or am I committed to the Promiser? Am I living a life with God seeking to grow in personal relationship with Him getting to know Him better and understanding who He is? Am I just committed to getting the promises of God? Do you treat God as a friend with benefits? Do you only call on Him when you are desperate? Do you only praise Him when He has done something for you? Will you praise Him in spite of? Do you trust Him or are you unwilling to rely on Him and only trust yourself. God wants to move you past the baby stage of Christianity into a full blown committed relationship with Him. He wants to provide for you and your family but you have to be willing to follow His leadership and guidance; and when God says I am finished with Cherith be quick to respond with a yes Father wherever you lead me I will follow! This is giving Jesus Christ the Lordship over your life. Many people accept Jesus as their Savior but never commit to allowing Him to be their Lord. Today make both commitments. Receive Christ as your Savior and be willing to allow Him to be your Lord and He promises even though

the brook may run dry you can always count on Him to provide! God say: “Take care of my business and I will provide abundantly for you!”