

MY SON IS ALIVE! 2nd Kings 4: 8-37, 8: 1-6

Everyone who has a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ will have a different perspective on what appears to be a hopeless situation. Our Savior has conquered our worst enemies, which are sin and death, by His death and Resurrection. Do you really believe the Son is alive, or are you just celebrating “Easter Sunday”?

I. GOD ALWAYS HONORS THOSE WHO HONOR HIM (2 Kings 4: 8-17)

⁸ Now it happened one day that Elisha went to Shunem, where there *was* a notable woman, and she persuaded him to eat some food. So it was, as often as he passed by, he would turn in there to eat some food. ⁹ And she said to her husband, "Look now, I know that this *is* a holy man of God, who passes by us regularly." ¹⁰ Please, let us make a small upper room on the wall; and let us put a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand; so it will be, whenever he comes to us, he can turn in there." ¹¹ And it happened one day that he came there, and he turned in to the upper room and lay down there. ¹² Then he said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite woman." When he had called her, she stood before him. ¹³ And he said to him, "Say now to her, 'Look, you have been concerned for us with all this care. What *can I* do for you? Do you want me to speak on your behalf to the king or to the commander of the army?'" She answered, "I dwell among my own people." ¹⁴ So he said, "What then *is* to be done for her?" And Gehazi answered, "Actually, she has no son, and her husband is old." ¹⁵ So he said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the doorway. ¹⁶ Then he said, "About this time next year you shall embrace a son." And she said, "No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your maidservant!" ¹⁷ But the woman conceived, and bore a son when the appointed time had come, of which Elisha had told her.

- A. If you are living righteously, someone should notice! (v.9)
- B. God can do things that you have stopped dreaming about (v. 16-17)

II. GOD IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON HIM (2 Kings 4: 18-37)

¹⁸ And the child grew. Now it happened one day that he went out to his father, to the reapers. ¹⁹ And he said to his father, "My head, my head!" So he said to a servant, "Carry him to his mother." ²⁰ When he had taken him and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and *then* died. ²¹ And she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, shut *the door* upon him, and went out. ²² Then she called to her husband, and said, "Please send me one of the young men and one of the donkeys, that I may run to the man of God and come back." ²³ So he said, "Why are you going to him today? *It is* neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath." And she said, "*It is* well." ²⁴ Then she saddled a donkey, and said to her servant, "Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace for me unless I tell you." ²⁵ And so she departed, and went to the man of God at Mount Carmel. So it was, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to his servant Gehazi, "Look, the Shunammite woman!". ²⁶ Please run now to meet her, and say to her, '*Is it* well with you? *Is it* well with your husband? *Is it* well with the child?' " And she answered, "*It is* well." ²⁷ Now when she came to the man of God at the hill, she caught him by the feet, but Gehazi came near to push her away. But the man of God said, "Let her alone; for her soul *is* in deep distress, and the Lord has hidden *it* from me, and has not told me." ²⁸ So she said, "Did I ask a son of my lord? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me'?" ²⁹ Then he said to Gehazi, "Get yourself ready, and take my staff in your hand, and be on your way. If you meet anyone, do not greet him; and if anyone greets you, do not answer him; but lay my staff on the face of the child." ³⁰ And the mother of the child said, "As the Lord lives, and *as* your soul lives, I will not leave you." So he arose and followed her. ³¹ Now Gehazi went on ahead of them, and laid the staff on the face of the

child; but *there was* neither voice nor hearing. Therefore he went back to meet him, and told him, saying, "The child has not awakened." ³² When Elisha came into the house, there was the child, lying dead on his bed. ³³ He went in therefore, shut the door behind the two of them, and prayed to the Lord. ³⁴ And he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm. ³⁵ He returned and walked back and forth in the house, and again went up and stretched himself out on him; then the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. ³⁶ And he called Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite woman." So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, "Pick up your son." ³⁷ So she went in, fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground; then she picked up her son and went out.

- A. Death is a living reality for everyone. Age does not matter (v.20)
- B. We are surrounded by people who are in more pain than they want to talk about. Be **sensitive** and **compassionate**! (v. 21-30)
- C. We need to be in contact with God's power to experience life instead of death (v. 33-37)

III. GOD WANTS US TO TELL OTHERS "THE SON IS ALIVE!"

2 Kings 8:1-6 (NKJV)

¹Then Elisha spoke to the woman whose son he had restored to life, saying, "Arise and go, you and your household, and stay wherever you can; for the Lord has called for a famine, and furthermore, it will come upon the land for seven years." ²So the woman arose and did according to the saying of the man of God, and she went with her household and dwelt in the land of the Philistines seven years. ³It came to pass, at the end of seven years, that the woman returned from the land of the Philistines; and she went to make an appeal to the king for her house and for her land. ⁴Then the king talked with Gehazi, the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me, please, all the great things Elisha has done." ⁵Now it happened, as he was telling the king how he had restored the dead to life, that there was the woman whose son he had restored to life, appealing to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this *is* the woman, and this *is* her son whom Elisha restored to life." ⁶ And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed a certain officer for her, saying, "Restore all that *was* hers, and all the proceeds of the field from the day that she left the land until now."

- A. You need to know the Son is alive if you want your inheritance!

1 Peter 1:3-5 (NKJV)

³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

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