

Elijah and the Ravens

1 Kings 17:2-7

What should we learn from the story of Elijah and the ravens?

1) God commanded and the ravens came.

In 1 Kings 17:4 the Lord declares, "*I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.*" God sent them, God commanded them and God directed them. God knows what you need, and He knows when you need it, and He will make sure you have it in time. As He sent the ravens to Elijah, He can command all heaven to come to your aid.

2) God did not allow Elijah to hoard up a surplus.

He sent the ravens to Elijah twice a day, in the morning and again in the evening.

3) God didn't ask Elijah's permission before He sent the ravens.

In this we see both the creativity and the sovereignty of God. He can take an unclean bird and feed his prophet, and He can do it for days or months or even for years.

4) God has appointed the beginning and ending of every season of life.

1 Kings 17:7 says that "some time later the brook dried up." That makes it sound as if it happened by chance. But the Hebrew phrase translated "some time later" actually means "at the end of days."

Making the application:

First, God's timing and ours are rarely the same.

Second, God's plan is rarely revealed in advance.

Third, God's leading often involves sudden changes.

Fourth, we must learn to trust God.

Fifth, God's blessings come after our obedience not before.