

# Trusting God When The Food Runs Out

## *Elijah: A Man of Heroism and Humility*

Scripture Reading: *James 5:13-18*

- A. In our last study, we compared *1 Kings 17:2-7* to a type of “boot camp” experience.
  - 1. When boot camp ends, advanced training follows—more demanding, complicated, rugged.
  - 2. The goal? To be prepared for *real* battle.
- B. We are using that figure because it is a dramatic analogy of what Elijah encountered during the next stage of his training as a fully devoted and completely equipped man of God.

### I. “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there” (*1 Kings 17:9*)

A. *Zarephath* — from a Hebrew verb that means “to melt.” In noun form, “a crucible.”

B. Spiritual crucibles have unique potential to create pure godliness.

1. *Malachi 3:1-3*—in reference to the coming of the Messiah.

2. “How do you know when the silver is fully refined?” “When I see my reflection in it.”

### II. God’s plan for Elijah in Zarephath

A. God knew where Elijah was (*17:8*)

B. God knew where Elijah was going (*17:8-9*)

C. God knew, and God had prepared (*17:9*)

### III. Elijah’s tests while in Zarephath

A. “So he arose and went to Zarephath...” (*17:10-11*)

B. Welcome to Zarephath, Elijah! (*17:12*)

C. Elijah saw beyond the difficulty and handled the problem with faith, not fear (*17:13-14*)

D. Man’s informed obedience + God’s wise and faithful provision = great things (*17:15-16*)