

FROM SHORTAGE TO SURPLUS [Part 1]

By Pastor Charles Omofoma



8 And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

14 For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

16 And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah

1 Kings 17:8-16 [KJV]

“Shortage” means *lack, insufficiency, and inadequacy*. On the other hand, “surplus” means *more than is needed*. Walking from shortage to surplus means walking from a realm where you do not have enough to a realm where you have more than you need. If you have shortages in specific areas of your life, I can assure you that that is not good news. The good news is that you can walk away from that realm to the realm of surplus. That is God’s desire for every child of His, and that is my desire for you. You need to know that it is possible. I have made up my mind that I will operate in the realm of surplus. You also have to make up your mind that you’re going to operate in the realm of surplus. If you have done that, then the principles which we find in our portion of the scripture will help you achieve that.

Do Not Consider Your Present Circumstances

Looking at 1 Kings 17: 8-12, you will notice that when Elijah asked the widow woman for a morsel of bread, she swore, “I don’t have a cake.” Does that sound familiar? We often start with the negative, “I have not.” If that is what you are saying, then you will have what you say (Mark 11:23). How would you want somebody to walk up to you and call you “Mr. have not”? or “Miss have not” or “Mrs. have not”? Yet that is your language. Anybody who wants to move from shortage to surplus must learn not to consider his or her present circumstance.

17(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things, which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb.

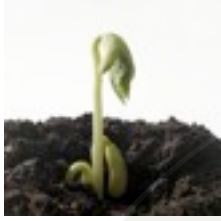
Romans 4:17-19 [KJV]

Abraham did not consider his circumstance. Sometimes the devil tries to put your circumstance before you, but look the devil straight in the face and say, “I will not consider the circumstance. My focus is on the Word of God.” Consider the ability and the all sufficient nature of God and not your circumstance and lack.

Romans 4:17 says, “...*Even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.*” God does not call the things that be as though they are not. God did not say you should say “My flour is not finished.” If you say it like that, you’re coming from the negative. Life is about perspective. If you have a glass with wine half way, you can either decide to say that the glass is half full, or the glass is half empty. It depends on your perspective.

The principles of God’s Word work. If you will operate and get into the cycle of His principles, they will work for you. One of those principles is: if what have is not enough to be a harvest, make it a seed. Quit considering your prevailing circumstances and conditions.





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1 Kings 17:11-12 [KJV]

Those who consider their circumstance end up dying all forms of death. You may be say-

ing, "I have not paid my children's school fees." But God is nudging you to do something. Then you kneel down and pray for God to do something about that same need. Didn't God know that you haven't paid your children's school fees when He nudged you to do something?

Make Demands On Your Faith

1 kings 17:13 says, *"And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son."*

Elijah told her to make a demand on her faith. Until you make a demand on your faith, you will never know how much faith you have. The difference between belief and faith is that faith takes action and the best time to act on the Word of God is immediately you hear it because if you allow the passage of time, the devil will come and sow seeds of unbelief into your heart. The way to break the bondage of fear is to act in faith. Do exactly the opposite of what the fear is telling you to do. When you do that you make a demand on your faith, and your faith will work.

Elijah told the woman not to be afraid because he saw that fear was already creeping in. When you make demands on your faith the size of your faith becomes immaterial. Once you make demands on it, it will stretch to fulfill the purpose for which you need it. Some people come to me and say, "Pastor, do you know why I've never come to give you any money even though you bless me a lot? I feel it's too small." And for many years they are still stuck with that same excuse! They should have done something and let it work and change the situation for them. What will lead you from shortage to surplus is what you already have in your hands. Don't say it's too small. That's what you have. Don't think: "what is it going to do?" A man of God said God once told him, "What the people give is not what will meet your needs. It's what you

give that will meet your needs." What you give is what will attract the harvest you're seeking.

Luke 6:38 says, *"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."* If you give kobo, kobo shall be pressed down shaken together; kobo will run over for you! It's not what you give that God is looking at, it's what you have left over after you give. The measure with which you give is the same measure that shall be measured to you.

I want you to have the spirit of giving and the spirit of prosperity, not the spirit of lack which says, "I have not."

Watch out for part 2



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