

# Be the Vessel

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**II Kings 4:1-7** – A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the Lord. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves." <sup>2</sup> So Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" And she said, "Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar of oil." <sup>3</sup> Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors — empty vessels; do not gather just a few. <sup>4</sup> And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones." <sup>5</sup> So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured it out. <sup>6</sup> Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another vessel." So the oil ceased. <sup>7</sup> Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest."

The enemy is coming to enslave our sons, our daughters, and our nation.

The only thing that will stop the next generation from being enslaved is oil.

The problem isn't a lack of oil. The problem is, "Can God find vessels?"

It is never an oil problem, but a vessel problem.

The supply of the vessels was up to the woman, not God.

She determined the magnitude of her miracle, not God.

The oil stopped when she ran out of vessels.

The church is stopped when God has no vessels.

When you say your vessels are full, the oil will stop.

God always needs a vessel to bring deliverance to man.

**Hebrews 10:5** – Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body or a vessel you prepared for me."

Our bodies are the vessels, and they are borrowed at that!

Satan is seeking to kill, steal, and destroy the vessels.

**Luke 14:16-24** – Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. <sup>17</sup> At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' <sup>18</sup> "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.' <sup>19</sup> "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.' <sup>20</sup> "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' <sup>21</sup> "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' <sup>22</sup> "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.' <sup>23</sup> "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.'

We are reaching out to people because He wants His house full!

**Acts 9:15** – But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel."

Paul said that we need to go get the world.

They met in the boardroom and Paul said, "You guys take Jerusalem; I'm going to reach the rest of the world."

**Romans 9:1-3** – O Israel, my people! O my Jewish brothers! How I long for you to come to Christ. My heart is heavy within me, and I grieve bitterly day and night because of you. Christ knows and the Holy Spirit knows that it is no mere pretense when I say that I would be willing to be forever damned if that would save you.

We are called to reach our world.

Barriers:

- Barrier to salvation in Acts 15 = men must be circumcised
  - Acts 15 – We should not do anything that makes it difficult for the Gentiles (those without Christ) to come to God.

You may do significant things with your life, but you will never do anything more significant than to participate with Jesus in building his church. This activity is at the epicenter of the heart of God.

**I Corinthians 15:58** – Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

God is looking for vessels that will be used to fill His house.