

## If I Need It - God Will Meet It, Philippians 4:19 – April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

- I want to talk with you today about how it is and why it is that whenever we have a legitimate need, God will always provide it.
- The reason I'm qualifying this by saying legitimate is because this promise does not apply to all of our wants, or all our desires.
- In other words, it must truly and genuinely be a need that we have in order for God to meet that need, which He will always do.

- Actually, this promise in particular is one of those promises in the Word of God that comes packaged with specific conditions.
- It's for this reason I would like to drill down into this very well known verse by first looking at the conditions that need to be met.
- Once we have a better understanding of these conditions, we will then look at just how powerful and profound this promise is.

### **Condition #1: It will be proportionate**

- This is not a blanket promise in the sense that it needs to be kept within the context of what the Apostle Paul is saying to them.
- Namely, that this applies to those who give, such that, it's because they give, God will meet and richly supply all of ones needs.
- In other words, proportionate to their meeting Paul's needs so too will God meet all their needs according to the riches in Christ.

Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

- I think we would do well to note that Paul did not write this to any of the other churches, rather, it was written to the Philippians.
- The reason I point this out is that the Thessalonians, Colossians, and Corinthians had not given sacrificially as the Philippians.
- I say sacrificially because the Philippian's weren't rich financially, they were actually impoverished, yet they gave generously.

2 Corinthians 11:8 - I robbed other churches by receiving support from them so as to serve you.

### **Condition #2: It must be good**

- If you were to ask me what I thought was one of the reasons we as Christians misunderstand God's provision, this would be it.
- Specifically as it relates to asking God to meet a need that you perceive is going to be good, when in fact, God knows it's not.
- The truth of the matter is that if it's good, God will give it to You, in His time, in His way, and for His glory, but if not He will not.

James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Romans 8:32 - He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

- It's with this understanding that we're now better able to embrace this magnificent promise from God to meet all of our needs.
- Notice what the Apostle Paul says, he says that God will meet all our needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.
- This means that the source is inexhaustible, such that, the supply of riches never runs out and brings Him glory in Christ Jesus.

2 Kings 4:1-7 1 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." 2 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." 3 Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few. 4 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." 5 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. 6 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. 7 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."

- What Elisha does here is interesting in a couple of ways, the first of which is that he has her do this between her and the Lord.
- In other words, he doesn't want in any way for this widow to give him the credit for that which God is about to do miraculously.
- This clearly speaks to how that no flesh will glory in God's presence, such that it's only the Lord Who is to receive all the glory.

- The second interesting thing Elisha does here is that he has her borrow vessels from everywhere, and not just a few of them.
- Not only does he have her get as many as she can, she's also told the vessels need to be empty and that God would fill them.
- I believe we're given these details here in the narrative because it shows the importance of empty vessels being filled by faith.

- This is yet one more account to add to the numerous accounts in scripture, where God provides all that is needed for His glory.
- Often times God may choose to use a miracle in the supernatural, and at other times, God may choose to do it in the natural.
- One thing is certain, regardless of how God will do it, or when God will do it, we by faith can believe that God will in fact do it.