

WCBC ENGLISH WORSHIP SERVICE - JULY 7, 2019

TOPIC: TWELVE OT PRAYERS THAT CONNECT

Sermon 10: *A Prayer For Life!*

TEXT: I Kings 17:17-24

INTRO: Who Is Elijah?

THREE PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS REGARDING ELIJAH'S PRAYER

1. God is the Giver and Taker of life! - v.20

Note: The phrase "*causing her son to die*" on the last part of verse 20 implies that God has all the rights to take away a person's life if He desires to do so!

A. Life is short - Psalm 90:10

B. Life is uncertain - James 4:14

2. Man has a soul! - v.21

Note: The word "*life*" on the last part of verse 21 is the Hebrew word, "nephesh," meaning, "soul."-cf. I Thess. 5:23

- Man is a tripartite being!

A. It departs from the body at the time of death - vv. 21, 22

Where to:

1) If saved - goes to Heaven! (Hebrews 12:22-23)

2) If unsaved - goes to hell! (Matthew 25:41-46)

- No purgatory!

"WHERE WOULD YOUR SOUL GO WHEN YOU DIE?"

B. It gives life to the body - vv. 22, 23

Note: Souls in hell are CONSCIOUSLY alive! - Luke 16:23-24

3. Turned doubt into faith! - v.24 cf. v.18

Note: The widow now validates:

A. Elijah as a genuine prophet of God - v.24

B. Elijah's prophecy is genuine! -v.24

*Like that widow, at times, due to our little faith in God, we need to personally see a miracle that resulted in an answered prayer before our doubts can turn into faith!

CONCLUSION: Jesus' Personal Appraisal Of Man's Soul!

Charlemagne's Position After Death!

Charlemagne gave instructions that when he died, he should be buried seated in the royal posture of a ruling monarch on a throne. Then he directed that the Gospels should be laid on his knees, his sword beside him, the imperial crown on his head, and the royal mantle on his shoulders. And thus his body remained in the tomb for 180 years.

About 1,000 A.D., the tomb was opened by the Emperor Otho. They found the skeleton of Charlemagne, dissolved and dismembered into various hideous postures. The skull was still wearing the crown. And the bony finger of the skeleton was pointing to the verse of Scripture, "*For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*" (Matthew 16:26) - Massie

Verse For Today

"What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? - Matthew 16:26a (NIV)

Food For Thought

"He who provides for this life, but takes no care for eternity, is wise for a moment, but a fool forever!"

- Tillotson

