

THE KING

IMAGINE THE POWER



GROUP/FAMILY

Session 4

- Watch the sermon “Schrödinger’s Siege” on The Redemption Church YouTube Channel.
- Apply your life to the Bible alongside your group or family with the honest questions in this lesson.



This Week's Sermon exposit 2 Kings 7:1-20

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Context

Second Kings 8:1-6 took place during the prophetic ministry of Elisha in the northern kingdom of Israel during a spiritually unstable era marked by idolatry, political unrest, and covenant disobedience. Famines in the ancient Near East were devastating events that often resulted from war, drought, crop disease, or divine judgment. Historically, God reserved the right to send famine with fair warning upon the Israelites in Deuteronomy 28:23,24.

We have met the Shunamite woman in today's text before! She previously demonstrated faith and hospitality toward Elisha in 2 Kings 4. Here, she again responded obediently to prophetic instruction by leaving the land during the seven-year famine. Her restoration before the king revealed God's providential sovereignty over rulers, timing, testimony, and property rights.

God never gives up. He just wins in the end because He's sovereign. Just ask the Shunamite woman!

The Big Idea of the Text

The Shunammite woman obediently fled famine and later received complete restoration through God's providential timing before the king.

Connecting the Session to the Sermon

Second Kings 8:1-6 closely parallels 2 Kings 7 because both passages revolve around God's sovereign reversal of hopeless circumstances during famine. In 2 Kings 7, the starving city of Samaria unexpectedly received abundance through God's miraculous deliverance from the Arameans. In 2 Kings 8, the Shunammite woman survived the same covenant judgment by obediently trusting the prophetic word. Each chapter is a story of faith vindicated. Each narrative also highlighted divine timing. In chapter 7, the officer who doubted God's promise saw fulfillment but could not partake in it. In chapter 8, the woman arrived before the king precisely as Gehazi recounted her miracle. Both accounts demonstrated that God ruled over economics, rulers, military powers, famine, and restoration. Each passage also magnified prophetic testimony as the means through which God revealed His authority and mercy.

CLICK HERE TO SEE THE TIMELINE OF KINGS:



Biblical Text (CSB) - 2 Kings 8:1-6

Elisha said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, "Get ready, you and your household, and go live as a resident alien wherever you can. For the Lord has announced a seven-year famine, and it has already come to the land."

² So the woman got ready and did what the man of God said. She and her household lived as resident aliens in the land of the Philistines for seven years. ³ When the woman returned from the land of the Philistines at the end of seven years, she went to appeal to the king for her house and field.

⁴ The king had been speaking to Gehazi, the attendant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me all the great things Elisha has done."

⁵ While he was telling the king how Elisha restored the dead son to life, the woman whose son he had restored to life came to appeal to the king for her house and field. So Gehazi said, "My lord the king, this is the woman and this is the son Elisha restored to life."

⁶ When the king asked the woman, she told him the story. So the king appointed a court official for her, saying, "Restore all that was hers, along with all the income from the field from the day she left the country until now."

Applying Our Lives to the Text

- What do you imagine those seven years were like for the Shunamite woman?
- According to verses 3 and 4, Gehazi recounted the miraculous story from 2 Kings 4, seven years prior to today's text, about the Shunamite woman *the moment she approached the king!* List the steps God took behind-the-scenes to sovereignly orchestrate this miraculous moment.
- In what ways did just the plain awesomeness of God's Word help this woman with Old Testament Israel's built-in policies regarding the restoration of property?
- In what ways did the woman's earlier hospitality toward Elisha in 2 Kings 4 prepare the foundation for God's preservation and restoration here?
- How does the seven-year famine mentioned in verse 1 connect to covenant warnings in Deuteronomy, and what does this teach about divine judgment?
- What specific evidence throughout verses 1-6 shows that God orchestrated conversations, memories, authority, and timing to accomplish complete restoration for His servant?



The Takeaway: So What Church?

WE WILL LEARN TO WAIT WITH THE PATIENCE OF THE SHUNAMITE WOMAN. God governs timing, rulers, resources, and restoration better than human planning ever could. We will remember that faithful obedience today often prepares the groundwork for future deliverance we cannot yet see. This passage also points prophetically to Jesus because the Shunammite woman experienced restoration through the testimony concerning miraculous life from the dead. Gehazi spoke of the son restored to life, and immediately restoration followed. In a greater way, sinners receive eternal restoration through the testimony of the resurrected Christ. Jesus is the greater Prophet who warns of judgment, provides refuge, preserves His people through spiritual famine, and restores what sin has stolen. Like the woman appearing before the king, believers approach the throne through the witness of resurrection life.

She had Elisha. We have Jesus.

For Parents:

SHOW YOUR KIDS JESUS IN THIS PASSAGE

This story shows us that God was preparing people to understand Jesus long before Jesus was born in Bethlehem. The woman listened carefully to God's prophet and was protected during the famine. Then God arranged everything so the king heard about her son being brought back to life at the exact moment she arrived. That was not an accident. God was showing that He controls history and rescues His people through His chosen servant. Later, Jesus would come as the greater Prophet and King. Jesus would raise the dead, protect His people from judgment, and restore sinners to God. The restored son in this story pointed forward to the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

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- And Then You Will Know: The Book of Ezekiel for Groups
- Daniel: The Book of Daniel for Groups
- Dear Skeptical Friend: The Gospel of Luke for Groups
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ABOUT JCM

Dr. Jesse Campbell is the founder and head Pastor of The Redemption Church, located on the outskirts of Seattle, WA. Jesse has a strong calling to preach the Bible as it is written. In the midst of a socially and religiously starving culture, his biblical foundation for understanding and preaching the gospel in a strong, clear, and concise manner has earned him a large following in a short amount of time. He's grown the JCM platform quickly, has been featured on national radio shows, and has been a guest speaker across the nation at many churches and large events.

Originally from the Pensacola, FL area, Jesse moved with his family to Nashville and worked at Lifeway Publishing for a while before completing his pastoral education. He was led to launch his own biblically-based church, The Redemption Church, in 2020.

Jesse is married to his wife, Jessi, and they have 4 children. Together they also run a conference for bereaved parents, in memory of their son, Aiden, called Aiden's Hope. When Jesse and Jessi aren't investing their time in JCM or The Redemption Church, you can find them on the bleachers cheering on many baseball and football games or mountain biking and snowboarding in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.