

God brought the widow's son back to life!



Widow of Zarehpath and her son.
God provided oil and flour for their meals.



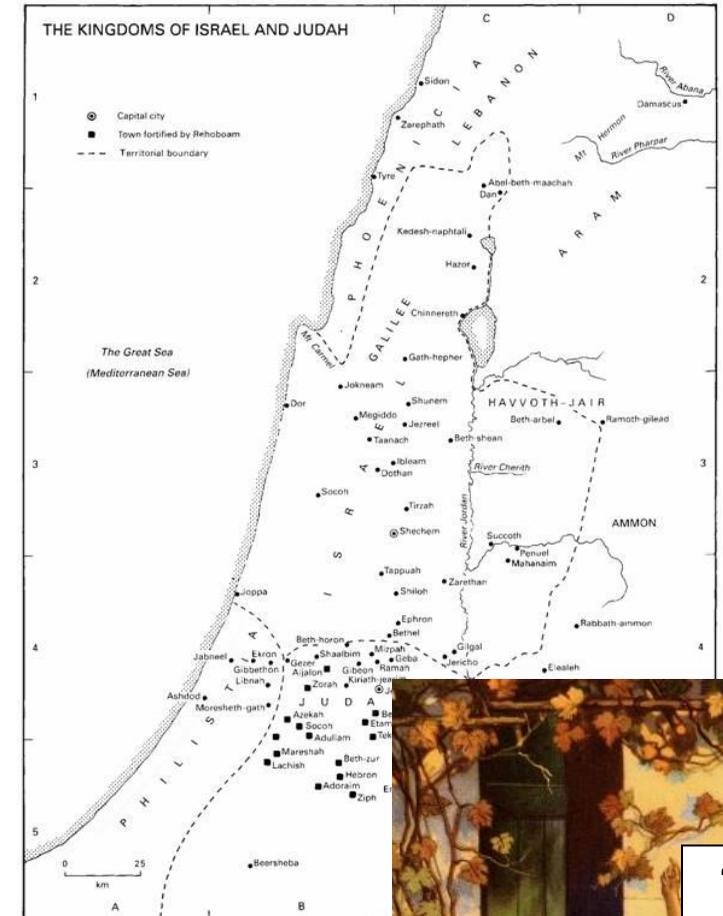
First Church of God

Sermon Outline

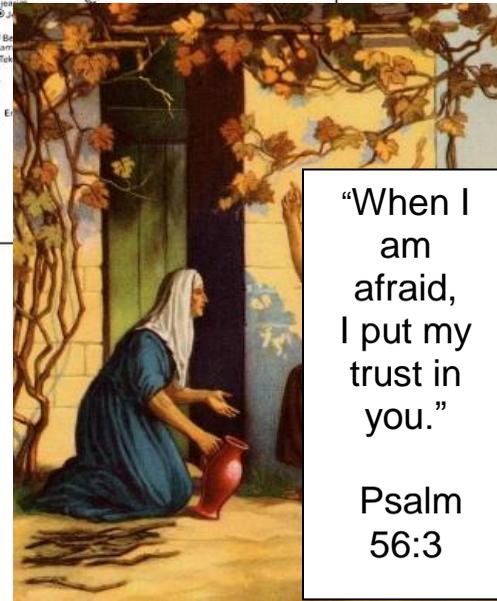
September 15, 2013
Rev. Dee Padgett

**“Elijah and the
Widow of Zarephath ... Faith”**

I Kings 17



Background: Elijah has started his ministry in the Northern kingdom.



“When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.”

Psalm 56:3

Ahab is king and he is married to **Jezebel**.
Baal was the pagan god of **rain and weather**.

1. **Sometimes we are put in extreme circumstances or poverty ... where we must dependent **DAILY** on God to provide our needs. This causes our **FAITH** to increase.**

Elijah could have argued to God. Why send me to Zarephath in Sidon? Jezebel's father is **King**.
This is **Baal** country.

Why send me to a poor **widow**?

2. **Sometimes God expands our faith territory by providing help from unexpected and unlikely sources ... even from non-Christians or in **pagan** territory.**

Faith and **Trust** go hand in hand.

3. **The widow is depressed, desperate and despondent ... and afraid.**

Cheap grace is a phrase coined by the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. He was a minister in Hitler's time. As a non-Jew he spoke out against the cruel mistreatment of the Jews. He was also put to death for his beliefs.

It doesn't read that God provided the fatted calf and a ring on the widow's finger ... he provided for her needs.

4. **Even though she did the right thing ... something went wrong.**

Her son **dies**. The widow lashes out at **Elijah**.

5. **When God takes our sin away, it is gone, buried. He has forgotten it. It is God's amnesia!**
6. **Who is your faith in?**

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.”

Psalm 20:7

