

**A CRISIS
and an
OIL SHORTAGE
and
GOD'S PROVISION**

► Oil Shortage ?



Elisha the Prophet

Background

Elisha's name means "My God is Salvation"

Elisha's message - Give your attention to God

Nation was falling apart. Why? They turned away from God & worshipped idols and man-made gods.

They settled for Comfort, Pleasure, Convenience

Yet, there was still a small number of people worshipping the true God. There were 'schools of prophets' led by Elisha.

▶ **2 Kings 4:1-7**

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."

Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?"

"Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a small jar of olive oil."

Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbours for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few."

▶ 2 Kings 4:1-7

Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side."

She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one."

But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing.

She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

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But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

...from He Giveth More Grace by Annie Johnson Flint

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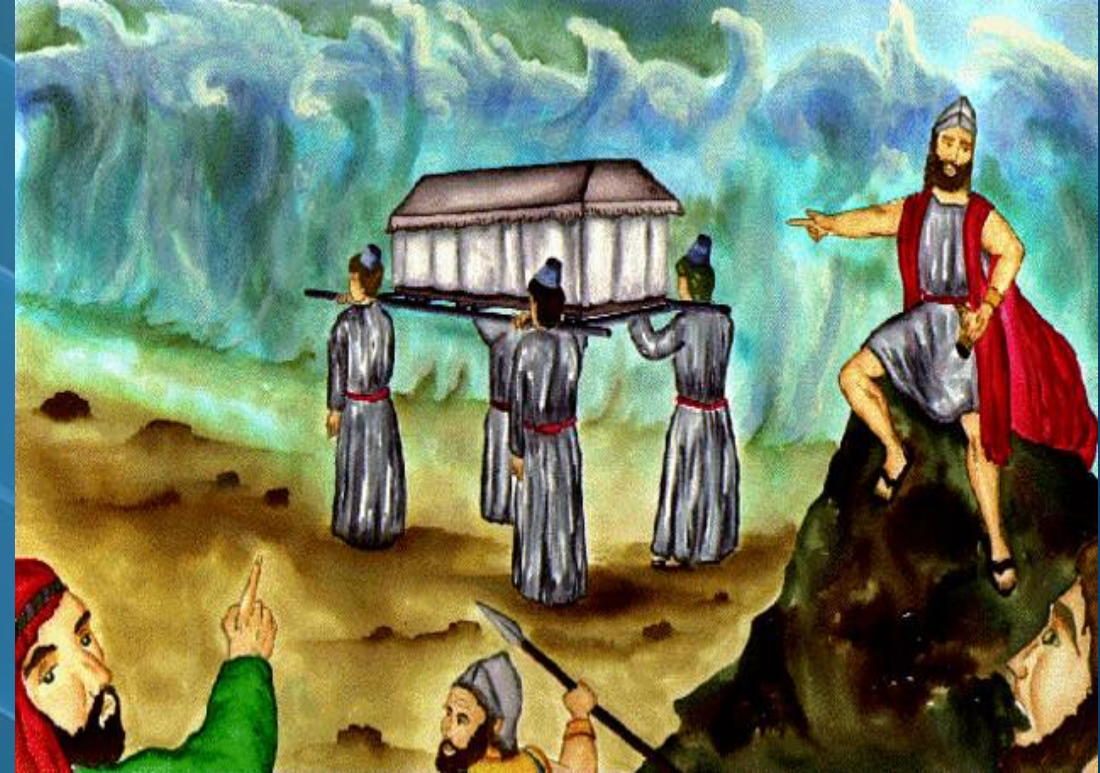
When did the miracle happen?



Joshua 3 v8 ,17

Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: "When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river."

The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.



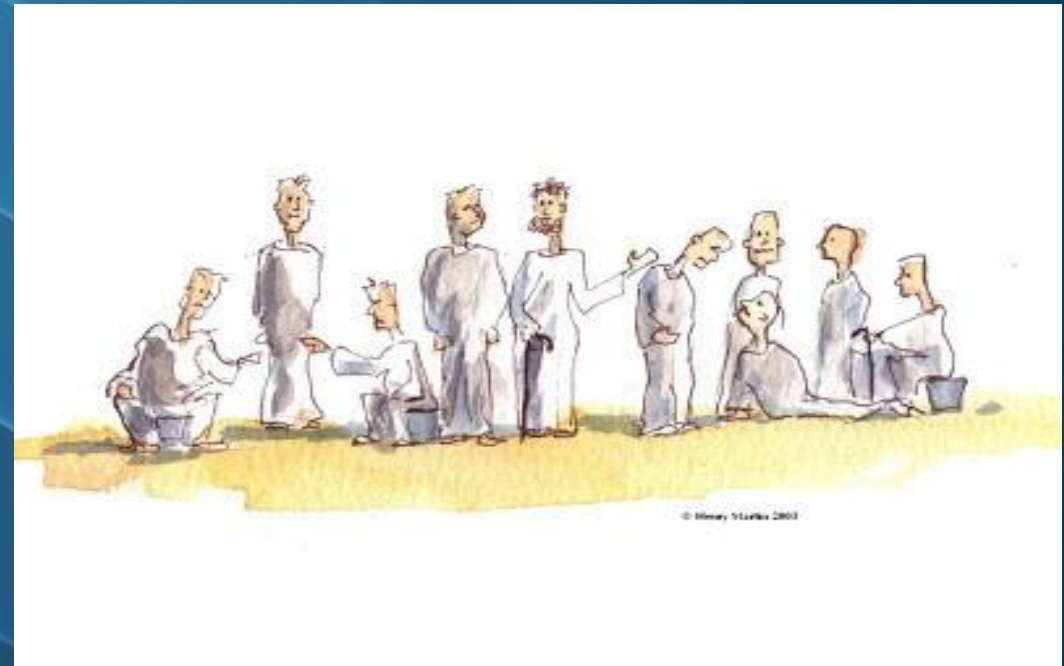
Luke 6 v10

He looked around at them all, and then said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was completely restored.'

Luke 17 v12-14

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests."



Luke 17 v12-14

And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.

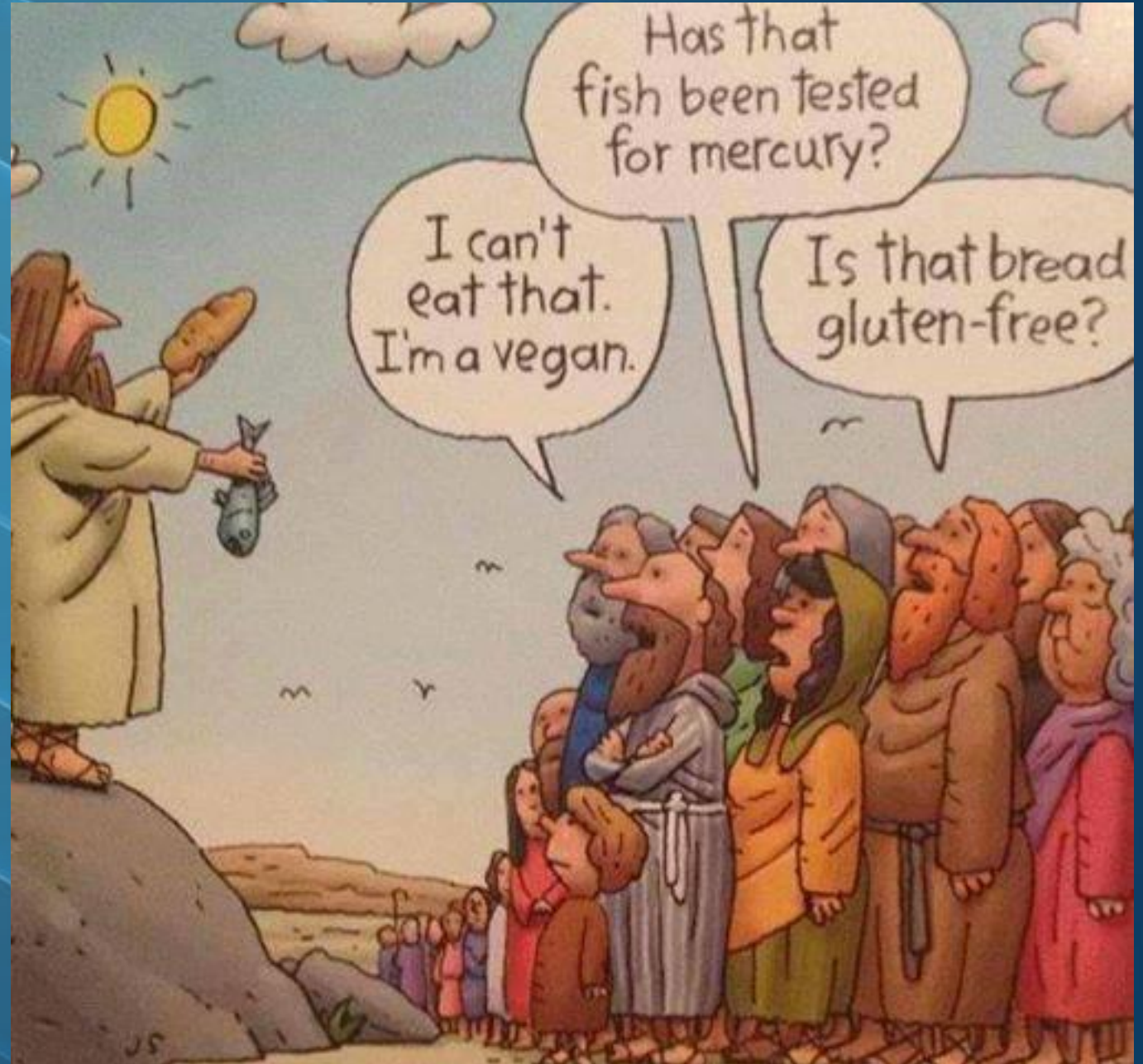
Water to wine at wedding John 2 6-10
Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew.



Feeding the 5,000



Feeding the 5,000
in 2022 ?



When did the miracle happen?

Oil represents the 'Spirit of the Lord', the Holy Spirit.

Oil on the inside changed - everything.



The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed. . . . (Luke 4:18)

John 16 v7

- ▶ *Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. (ESV)*
- At Pentecost God changed his address from the temple to living in you and me.
- Journey of discovery – Christ in us. He lives in us, transforming us.
- We say, we can't love, but the Spirit of Christ says I can.
- We get frustrated, but Spirit of Christ says I can, He is transforming us each day

1 Thess 5 v24

- ▶ *He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.*

Phil 1 v6

- ▶ *Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.*

Acts 4 v13

- ▶ *Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.*

- Elisha's message ... 'My God is Salvation'



He giveth more grace when the burdens grow
greater,
He sends more strength when the labours
increase;
To added affliction He adds His mercy;
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half
done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

Fear not that your need shall exceed His
provision,
Our God ever yearns His resources to share;
Lean hard on the arm everlasting, availing;
The Father both thee and thy load will upbear.

His love has no limit; His grace has no measure.
His power has no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus,
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again!

He Giveth More Grace: Annie Johnson Flint