

Miracles Behind The Door

וְאִשָּׁה אַחַת מִנְּשֵׁי בְנֵי הַנְּבִיאִים צִעְקָה אֶל-אֱלֹהֵי שָׁמַיִם לֵאמֹר עֲבַדְךָ אִישֵׁי מֵת וְאַתָּה יָדַעְתָּ כִּי עֲבַדְךָ הָיָה יָרָא אֶת ה' וְהִנֵּשָׂה בָּא לְקַחְתָּ אֶת שְׁנֵי יְלָדָי לֹו לְעֲבָדִים. וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֶיהָ אֱלֹהֵי שָׁמַיִם מָה אַעֲשֶׂה-לָּךְ הַגִּידִי לִי מִה-יֵשׁ-לָּךְ בַּבַּיִת וְתֹאמְרִי אֵין לְשִׁפְחָתְךָ כֹּל בַּבַּיִת כִּי אִם-אֶסֹּוֹף שָׁמֹן. וַיֹּאמֶר לָכִי שְׂאֲלִי-לָךְ כָּלִים מִן-הַחוּץ מֵאֵת כָּל-שְׂכֵנֶיךָ כָּלִים רַקִּים אֶל-תִּמְעִיטִי. וּבֹאת וְסָגַרְתָּ אֶת הַדֶּלֶת בְּעַדְךָ וּבְעַד-בְּנֵיךָ וַיִּצְקֶתָ עַל כָּל-הַכָּלִים הָאֵלֶּה וְהַמִּלָּא תִסְעִי.

וַתֵּלֶךְ מֵאֵתוֹ וַתִּסְגֹר אֶת הַדֶּלֶת בְּעַדָּהּ וּבְעַד בְּנֵיהָ הֵם מִגִּישִׁים אֵלֶיהָ וְהִיא מוֹצֵקֶת. וַיְהִי כַּמִּלֵּאת הַכָּלִים וְתֹאמְרִי אֶל-בְּנֵיהָ הַגִּישָׁה אֵלַי עוֹד כָּלִי וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֶיהָ אֵין עוֹד כָּלִי וַיַּעֲמֵד הַשָּׁמֹן. וַתֵּבֵא וַתִּגַּד לְאִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים וַיֹּאמֶר לָכִי מְכָרִי אֶת-הַשָּׁמֹן וְשִׁלְמִי אֶת-נְשִׁיךָ וְאֶת וּבְנֵיךָ תַחֲיִי בְנוֹתֶר.

וַיְהִי הַיּוֹם וַיַּעֲבֹר אֱלֹהֵי שָׁמַיִם אֶל-שׁוֹנִים וְשָׁם אִשָּׁה גְדוֹלָה וַתִּחַזֵּק-בּוֹ לֶאֱכֹל-לֶחֶם וַיְהִי מִדֵּי עֲבָרוֹ יָסַר שָׁמָּה לֶאֱכֹל-לֶחֶם. וְתֹאמְרִי אֶל-אִשָּׁה הִנֵּה-נָא יָדַעְתִּי כִּי אִישׁ אֱלֹהִים קָדוֹשׁ הוּא עֹבֵר עָלֵינוּ תָמִיד. נַעֲשֶׂה-נָא עֲלֵית-קִיר קִטְנָה וְנָשִׁים לֹו שָׁם מִטָּה וְשִׁלְחָן וְכִסֵּא וּמִנּוֹרָה וְהָיָה בָּבֵאוּ אֵלֵינוּ יָסוּר שָׁמָּה. וַיְהִי הַיּוֹם וַיֵּבֵא שָׁמָּה וַיָּסַר אֶל-הָעֲלִיָּה וַיִּשְׁכַּב-שָׁמָּה. וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-גִּיחֲזִי נַעֲרוּ קְרָא לְשׁוֹנֵמִית הַזֹּאת וַיִּקְרָא-לָהּ וַתַּעֲמֵד לְפָנָיו. וַיֹּאמֶר לֹו אָמֵר-נָא אֵלֶיהָ הִנֵּה חֲרַדְתָּ אֵלֵינוּ אֶת-כָּל-הַחֲרָדָה הַזֹּאת מָה לַעֲשׂוֹת לָךְ הֵיטֵ לְדַבָּר-לָךְ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אוֹ אֶל-שָׂר הַצָּבָא וְתֹאמְרִי בְתוֹךְ עַמִּי אָנֹכִי יִשְׁבֶּת. וַיֹּאמֶר וּמָה לַעֲשׂוֹת לָהּ וַיֹּאמֶר גִּיחֲזִי אָבֵל בֶּן אֵין-לָהּ וְאִשָּׁה זָקֹן. וַיֹּאמֶר קְרָא-לָהּ וַיִּקְרָא-לָהּ וַתַּעֲמֵד בַּפֶּתַח. וַיֹּאמֶר לְמוֹעֵד הַזֶּה כָּעֵת חָיָה אֶת חֲבֻקָת בֶּן וְתֹאמְרִי אֶל-אֲדָנִי אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל-תִּכְזַב בְּשִׁפְחָתְךָ.

וַתַּהַר הָאִשָּׁה וַתֵּלֶד בֶּן לְמוֹעֵד הַזֶּה כָּעֵת אֲשֶׁר-דָּבַר אֵלֶיהָ אֱלֹהֵי שָׁמַיִם. וַיִּגְדַּל הַיָּלָד וַיְהִי הַיּוֹם וַיֵּצֵא אֶל-אָבִיו אֶל-הַקּוֹצְרִים. וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-אָבִיו רֵאשִׁי רֵאשִׁי וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-הַנַּעַר שָׂאֵהוּ אֶל-אִמּוֹ. וַיִּשְׂאֵהוּ וַיְבִיאֵהוּ אֶל-אִמּוֹ וַיֵּשֶׁב עַל-בֶּרֶכְיָהּ עַד-הַצְּהָרִים וַיָּמָת. וַתַּעַל וַתִּשְׁכַּבְהוּ עַל-מִטַּת אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים וַתִּסְגֹר בְּעַדוֹ וַתִּצָּא. וַתִּקְרָא אֶל-אִשָּׁה וְתֹאמְרִי שְׁלַחָה נָא לִי אֶחָד מִן-הַנַּעֲרִים וְאַחַת הָאֲתוֹנוֹת וְאֶרְוֶצָה אֶל אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים וְאִשׁוּבָה. וַיֹּאמֶר מִדּוּעַ אֶת הוֹלָכָת אֵלָיו הַיּוֹם לֹא-חֲדָשׁ וְלֹא שַׁבָּת וְתֹאמְרִי שְׁלוֹם.

וַתַּחֲבֹשׁ הָאֲתוֹן וְתֹאמְרִי אֶל-נַעֲרָה נְהַג וְלָךְ אֶל-תַּעֲצֹר-לִי לְרֹכֵב כִּי אִם-אֶמְרָתִי לָךְ. וַתֵּלֶךְ וַתֵּבֹא אֶל-אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל-הַר הַכְּרִמָּל וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים אֶתָּה מִנְּגֵד וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-גִּיחֲזִי נַעֲרוּ הִנֵּה הַשׁוֹנֵמִית הַלֹּו. עֲתָה רוּץ-נָא

לְקַרְאֲתָהּ וְאָמַר-לָהּ הַשָּׁלוֹם לָךְ הַשָּׁלוֹם לְאִישֶׁךָ הַשָּׁלוֹם לְיָלְדֶיךָ וְתֹאמֶר שָׁלוֹם.
וְתָבוֹא אֶל-אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל-הַהָר וְתַחֲזֹק בְּרַגְלָיו וַיִּגֶשׁ גִּיחֲזִי לְהַדְפָּה וַיֹּאמֶר
אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים הֲרִפָּה-לָּהּ כִּי-נִפְשָׁה מָרָה-לָּהּ וְהִ' הָעֲלִים מִמֶּנִּי וְלֹא הֲגִיד לִי.
וְתֹאמֶר הַשָּׂאֲלֹתַי בֶּן מֵאֵת הִ' הֲלֹא אֲמַרְתִּי לֹא תִשָּׁלַח אֹתִי.

וַיֹּאמֶר לְגִיחֲזִי חֲגֹר מְתַנְיָךְ וְקַח מִשְׁעֲנֹתַי בְּיָדְךָ וְלֶךְ כִּי-תִמָּצָא אִישׁ לֹא
תִבְרָכְנוּ וְכִי-יִבְרָכְךָ אִישׁ לֹא תִעָנְנוּ וְשִׁמְתָּ מִשְׁעֲנֹתַי עַל-פְּנֵי הַנָּעַר. וְתֹאמֶר אִם
הַנָּעַר חִי-הִ' חִי-נִפְשֶׁךָ אִם-אֶעֱזָבְךָ וַיִּקָּם וַיִּלְךָ אַחֲרֶיהָ.

וַיִּגִּיחֲזִי עֶבֶר לַפְּנִיָּה וַיִּשָּׂם אֶת-הַמִּשְׁעָנֹת עַל-פְּנֵי הַנָּעַר וַאֲיִן קוֹל וַאֲיִן קֶשֶׁב
וַיֵּשֶׁב לְקַרְאֲתוֹ וַיִּגַּד-לוֹ לֵאמֹר לֹא הִקִּיץ הַנָּעַר. וַיָּבֹא אֶלְיִשָׁע הַבִּיטָה וְהִנֵּה
הַנָּעַר מֵת מִשְׁכָּב עַל-מִטָּתוֹ. וַיָּבֹא וַיִּסְגֹּר הַדְּלֹת בְּעַד שְׁנֵיהֶם וַיִּתְפַּלֵּל אֶל-הִ'.
וַיַּעַל וַיִּשְׁכַּב עַל-הַיָּלְדִים וַיִּשָּׂם פְּיוֹ עַל-פִּי וְעֵינָיו עַל-עֵינָיו וְכַפְּיוֹ עַל-כַּפְּיוֹ וַיִּגְהַר
עָלָיו וַיִּזְוֹרר הַנָּעַר עַד-שִׁבְעַת פְּעָמִים וַיִּפְקַח הַנָּעַר אֶת-עֵינָיו. וַיִּקְרָא אֶל-גִּיחֲזִי
וַיֹּאמֶר קְרָא אֶל-הַשְּׂנַמִּית הַזֹּאת וַיִּקְרָאָהּ וְתָבוֹא אֵלָיו וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאִי בְּנֶךָ.
וְתָבֹא וְתִפְּלַעַל עַל-רַגְלָיו וְתִשְׁתַּחֲוּ אַרְצָה וְתִשָּׂא אֶת-בְּנֵהּ וְתִצָּא.

A certain woman, the wife of one of the disciples of the prophets, cried out to Elisha: "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know how your servant revered the Lord. And now a creditor is coming to seize my two children as slaves." Elisha said to her, "What can I do for you? Tell me, what have you in the house?" She replied, "Your maidservant has nothing at all in the house, except a jar of oil." "Go," he said, "and borrow vessels, outside, from all your neighbors, empty vessels, as many as you can. then go in and shut the door behind you and your children, and pour [oil] into all those vessels, removing each one as it is filled."

She went away and shut the door behind her and her children. They kept bringing [vessels] to her and she kept pouring. When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." He answered her, "there are no more vessels"; and the oil stopped. She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go sell the oil and pay your debt, and you and your children can live on the rest."

One day Elisha visited Shunem. A wealthy woman lived there, and she urged him to have a meal; and whenever he passed by, he would stop there for a meal. Once she said to her husband, "I am sure it is a holy man of God who comes this way regularly. Let us make a small enclosed upper chamber and place a bed, a table, a chair, and a lampstand there for him, so that he can stop there whenever he comes to us." One day, he came there; he retired to the upper chamber and lay down there. He said to his servant Gehazi, "Call that Shunammite woman." He called her, and she stood before him. He said to him, "Tell her, 'You have gone to all this trouble for us. What can we do for you? Can we speak in your behalf to the king or to the army commander?'" She replied, "I live among my own people." "What then can be done for her?" he asked. "The fact is," said Gehazi, "she has no son, and her husband is old." "Call her," he said. He called her, and

she stood in the doorway. And Elisha said, “At this season next year, you will be embracing a son.” She replied, “Please, my lord, man of God, do not delude your maidservant.”

The woman conceived and bore a son at the same season the following year, as Elisha had assured her. The child grew up. One day, he went out to his father among the reapers. [Suddenly] he cried to his father, “Oh, my head, my head!” He said to a servant, “Carry him to his mother.” He picked him up and brought him to his mother. And the child sat on her lap until noon; and he died. She took him up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and left him and closed the door. Then she called to her husband: “Please, send me one of the servants and one of the she-asses, so I can hurry to the man of God and back.” But he said, “Why are you going to him today? It is neither new moon nor sabbath.” She answered, “It’s all right.”

She had the ass saddled, and said to her servant, “Urge [the beast] on; see that I don’t slow down unless I tell you.” She went on until she came to the man of God on Mount Carmel. When the man of God saw her from afar, he said to his servant Gehazi, “There is that Shunammite woman. Go, hurry toward her and ask her, ‘How are you? How is your husband? How is the child?’” “We are well,” she replied. But when she came up to the man of God on the mountain, she clasped his feet. Gehazi stepped forward to push her away; but the man of God said, “Let her alone, for she is in bitter distress; and the Lord has hidden it from me and has not told me.” Then she said, “Did I ask my lord for a son? didn’t I say: ‘Don’t mislead me?’”

He said to Gehazi, “Tie up your skirts, take my staff in your hand, and go. If you meet anyone, do not greet him; and if anyone greets you, do not answer him. And place my staff on the face of the boy.” But the boy’s mother said, “As the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you!” so he arose and followed her.

Gehazi had gone on before them and had placed the staff on the boy’s face; but there was no sound or response. He turned back to meet him and told him, “The boy has not awakened.” Elisha came into the house, and there was the boy, laid out dead on his couch. He went in, shut the door behind the two of them, and prayed to the Lord. Then he mounted [the bed] and placed himself over the child. He put his mouth on its mouth, his eyes on its eyes, and his hands on its hands, as he bent over it. And the body of the child became warm. He stepped down, walked once up and down the room, then mounted and bent over him. Thereupon, the boy sneezed seven times, and the boy opened his eyes. [Elisha] called Gehazi and said, “Call the Shunammite woman,” and he called her. When she came to him, he said, “Pick up your son.” She came and fell at his feet and bowed low to the ground; then she picked up her son and left.

(2 Kings 4:1-37)