

Scripture Readings

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from **The First Book of Kings** chapter **17** verses **8-15**, which can be found on page **399** in the **old testament** of your pew bible.*

⁸Then the word of the Lord came to him: ‘Go now to Zarephath, a village of Sidon, and stay there; I have commanded a widow there to feed you.’ So he went off to Zarephath. When he reached the entrance to the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he called to her and said, ‘Please bring me a little water in a pitcher to drink.’ As she went to fetch it, he called after her, ‘Bring me, please, a piece of bread as well.’ But she said, ‘As the Lord your God lives, I have no food to sustain me except a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a flask. Here I am, gathering two or three sticks to go and cook something for my son and myself before we die.’ ‘Never fear,’ said Elijah; ‘go and do as you say; but first make me a small cake from what you have and bring it out to me; and after that make something for your son and yourself. For this is the word of the Lord the God of Israel: “The jar of flour shall not give out nor the flask of oil fail, until the Lord sends rain on the land.”’ She went and did as Elijah had said, and there was food for him and for her and her family for a long time.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from **John** chapter **6** verse **1-15**, which can be found on page **118** in the **new testament** of your pew bible...*

¹Some time later Jesus withdrew to the farther shore of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias), and a large crowd of people followed who had seen the signs he performed in healing the sick. Then Jesus went up the hill-side and sat down with his disciples. It

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was near the time of Passover, the great Jewish festival. Raising his eyes and seeing a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread to feed these people?' This he said to test him: Jesus himself knew what he meant to do. Philip replied, 'Twenty pounds would not buy enough bread for every one of them to have a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fishes; but what is that among so many?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, so the men sat down, about five thousand of them. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to the people as they sat there. He did the same with the fishes, and they had as much as they wanted. When everyone had had enough, he said to his disciples, 'Collect the pieces left over, so that nothing may be lost.' This they did, and filled twelve baskets with the pieces left uneaten of the five barley loaves.

When the people saw the sign Jesus had performed, the word went round, 'Surely this must be the prophet that was to come into the world.' Jesus, aware that they meant to come and seize him to proclaim him king, withdrew again to the hills by himself.

May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.