

Date: 20 October 2019

Speaker: Rev Clement Chew

Topic: The Prophet of Fire: Remedy to Poison

Scripture text: 2 Kings 4:38-41

1. Physical food affects our body while spiritual food affects our soul. If we should be careful of what we eat, how much more important it is for us to be careful of the spiritual food we consume. We should not underestimate poison, for a little toxin is all it takes to cause damage or even death. Therefore, we have to always be on guard.

2. During that time, Israel was experiencing famine, although this should not happen if Israel had been walking rightly with God. But, they have sinned and gone astray because they had been careless with worldly philosophies, and they mixed Jehovah with Baal worship.

3. In order to satisfy the hunger of the prophets, a servant was instructed to go out to the forest to gather herbs and vegetables to make a pottage, which is a nutritious food. However, he gathered a wild vine and wild gourds that were poisonous. He shredded them until it was not possible to tell the good and the wild ingredients apart, and put them into the pottage. This man was ignorant of what was poisonous in the forests and carelessly placed them into the pottage. If we were to be ignorant of poisonous spiritual food, it will not only affect and damage us, but also the people around us.

4. In verse 40, it is written that "there is death in the pot". Something that is meant to be nutritious, has now become something deadly for the people. Therefore, it is important for us to pray for sensitive spiritual senses in order to discern what is good and poisonous to our soul.

5. Elisha then instructed them to add "meal", which is flour, to the pottage. Now, "there was no harm in the pot" (v41). The only remedy to poison is God and His Word. Through God's Word, He reveals what is poison to our soul and how we can guard ourselves from it.