

Date: 27 January 2019

Speaker: Rev Clement Chew

**Topic: The Prophet of Fire: Who Is the Provider?**

Scripture text: 1 Kings 17:1-16

1. Man is always concerned about bread and butter issues and is often worried about the cares of this world. Many are covetous and greedy, always wanting more and never satisfied.

2. Prophet Elijah also has his physical needs and he must learn that God is the Provider. Israel must not worship gods like Baal, thinking and hoping that these idols will provide for them. Idols cannot and do not provide. We also do not provide for ourselves. All that we have, our abilities and resources, come from God. God provides for us through means such as our employment and government. These are just instruments. God used ravens to provide for Elijah. His provision is timely and will never fail.

3. Elijah and Israel must learn that God is the Provider of all, not just for believers. Elijah was directed to Zidon, which is the center of Baal worship, where Baal and queen Jezebel came from. God used a widow, who is someone helpless and neglected by society, to provide for him. God can provide for the poorest and weakest. God can also use the poorest and weakest to provide. God can provide no matter the location and circumstance.

4. Therefore, we must trust and rely on God to provide all our needs. We must live by the Word of God (Deut 8:3) and obey Him.