

Provider: Jesus' Plan of Provision

Pastor John Carmichael

[Mat 17:27 NASB95] 27 "However, so that we do not offend them, go to the sea and throw in a hook, and take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for you and Me."

- **Its time to know God as our Provider.**
- In Genesis 22, we read about how Abraham came to know God as the Provider.
 - It was there Abraham called God "The LORD Will Provides".
 - This story points to Jesus' redemption of humanity. It also points to God meeting our material needs as well as our spiritual needs.
 - God will provide is the central theme of the passage and the turning point in the story. Note Paul's allusion to the story in Rom 8:32 ("how shall he not freely give us all things?") as well as H. J. Schoeps, "The Sacrifice of Isaac in Paul's Theology," JBL 65 (1946): 385-92.
 - [Rom 8:32 NASB95]
- Matthew 17:24-27
 - Peter:
 - Confronted by those who collect taxes.
 - Does not tell Jesus.
 - Has a part to play in the provision.
 - Jesus
 - Knows what we are confronted with.
 - Freed us from bondage caused by sin and Satan.
 - Has a plan of provision.

What does Jesus' plan of provision in Matthew 17 teach us about God as Provider?

Here are 4 truths about Jesus's plan of provision from Matthew 17.

I. Jesus' plan of provision has work but not toil.

- a. See verse 27
- b. "God is a worker, He worked for six days. Therefore, to work is godliness, and this is why Paul said: whoever does not work, should not eat" ... "The goal of work (Jesus' work) was to end toil, because that was a consequence of sin; and sin and its curse have been nailed upon the Cross", Vishal Mangalwadi, Evangelical Focus.
- c. [Gen 3:17-19 NASB95]
- d. [Gal 3:13 NASB95]
- e. [2Th 3:10-12 NASB95]
- f. God expects us to do our part.

II. Jesus' plan of provision will challenge us/humble us.

- a. See verse 27
- b. Peter fished by net not by hooks.
- c. Sometimes:
 - i. David – a rag and a bag rocks took down his giant.
 - ii. Joshua – a walk and a shout took down his wall.
 - iii. Jacob – a water trough and some bark made him wealthier than his boss.
- d. Find your grace and place... it will be more than enough to bring provision to you.
- e. The key is lay down your plans and purposes and pick up His plans and purposes.

III. Jesus' plan of provision will be supernatural.

- a. See verse 27

Provider: Jesus' Plan of Provision

Pastor John Carmichael

- b. How did the coin get into the mouth of the fish? How did Jesus know it would happen? He is God!
- c. Whether gradual or suddenly, God can supernaturally supply.
- d. From last message (1 Kings 17), we miss the supernatural by looking for the spectacular. The woman, the prophet, and her family never had barns full of flour or vats of oil, but it never went dry, even though sometimes the other happens, too. (Prov. 3:10)

IV. Jesus' plan of provision will have excess for the Kingdom.

- a. See verse 27
 - b. Peter not only paid for his own tax, but that of Jesus' too.
 - c. An obvious salvific consequence. Jesus paid for all of us!
 - d. Notice Jesus' plan of provision for Peter included personal and Gospel provision.
 - e. [Gen 12:2 NASB95]
 - f. [2Co 9:7-10 NASB95]
 - g. God will bless you with enough to provide for yourself, your family, and the Gospel (evangelism, discipleship, worship, helping the poor).
- Knowing God as Provider is knowing that He will look out for you... He will see to it that you are taken care of... He will provide!
 - Jesus' plan of provision will involve us working our assignment by being willing to humble ourselves, submitting to His plan, expecting the supernatural and having a heart willing to fund the Gospel.