

Bible Stories: Perseverance



聖經故事：毅力

Elijah Prays for Rain

The Old Testament prophet Elijah prayed for rain when there had been a severe drought in the land of Israel for three and a half years. Then Elijah said to his servant, “Go up higher and look toward the sea.”



天降大雨

在舊約聖經裡的先知以利亞，為以色列國長達三年半的嚴重乾旱祈禱降雨。然後他吩咐僕人：「你去向海的方向觀看。」

The servant went and looked. He came back and said, "I saw nothing."

Elijah told him to go look again. This happened seven times. The seventh time, the servant came back and said, "I saw a small cloud the size of a man's fist that was coming in from the sea."

After a short time the sky was covered with dark clouds. The wind began to blow, and a heavy rain began to fall.



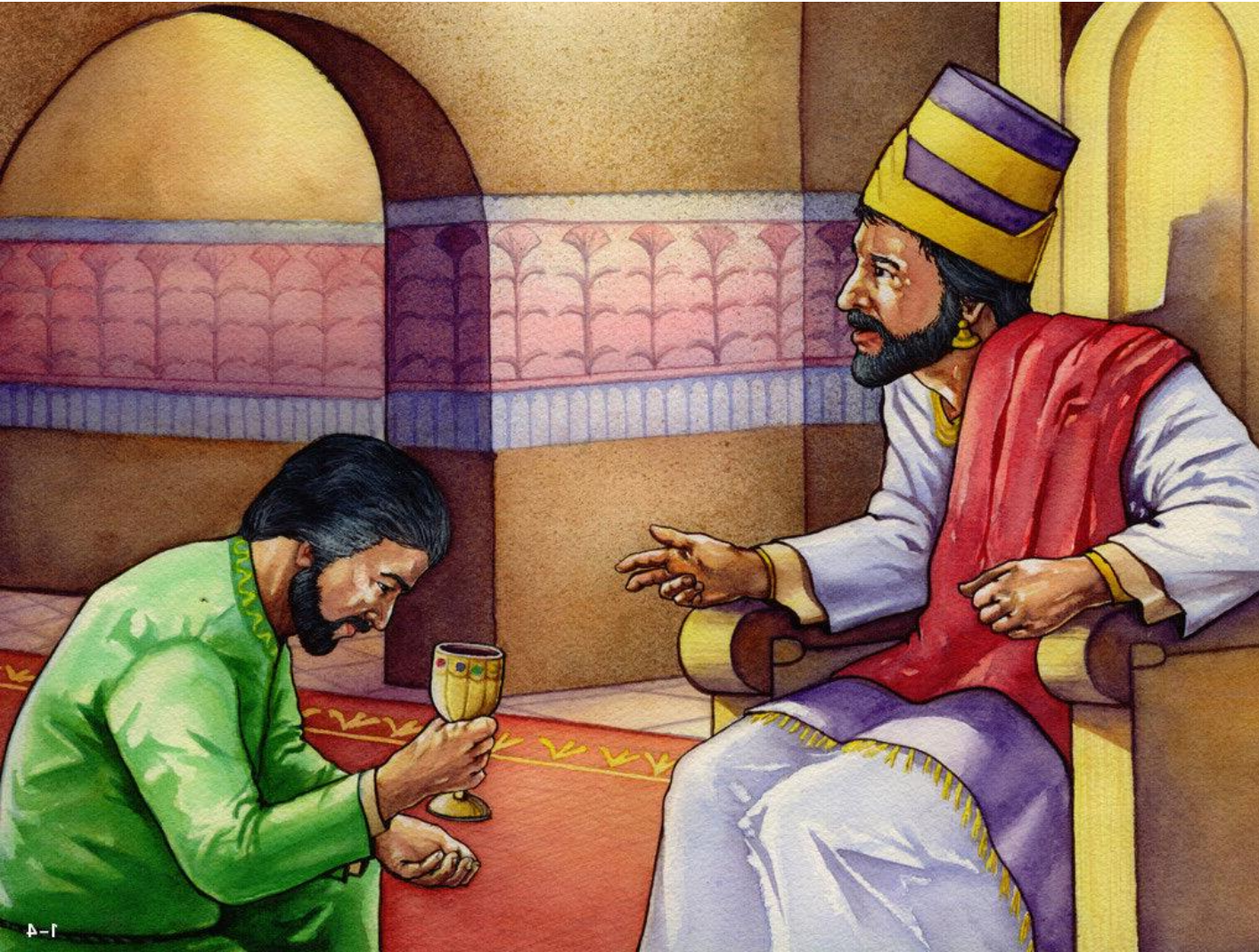
僕人就去觀看，然後說：「什麼也沒有。」以利亞又讓他去觀看，前後共七次。

第七次，僕人說：「我看見一朵手掌那麼大的雲從海裡升起來了。」

霎時間，天上烏雲密布，狂風大作，下起大雨。

Nehemiah

Nehemiah was the cupbearer for a foreign king. His heart, however, was to help his own people. So God set it up so that he would be in the palace at the right time to have a chat with the king, who then gave him permission to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls that had crumbled due to foreign occupations.



尼希米

尼希米本來是在為一位外國國王擔當酒政的工作。然而，他的心卻是想幫助自己的人民。因此上帝做了安排，讓他剛好在合適的時間在皇宮裡與國王聊天，國王隨後允許他返回耶路撒冷，重建因外邦人佔領耶路撒冷城而倒塌了的城牆。

Nehemiah inspired people to help him and get the work started, but the Israelites had a lot of enemies who didn't want the walls rebuilt and constantly threatened them.

People got discouraged, saying, "The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall." Their enemies were also taunting them, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work." The people who lived near the construction site kept warning, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us."



尼希米激勵以色列人去幫助他，於是開始建造城牆的工作。但是他們有很多敵人，這些人不希望他們重建城牆，並不斷威嚇他們。

以色列人感到灰心洩氣，說：「搬運的人氣力已經衰弱，但瓦礫仍多，我們不能再建城牆了！」他們的敵人也嘲弄他們說：「趁著他們不知道，還未看見之前，我們就進入他們中間，殺死他們，使那工程停止。」住在建築工地附近的人不停地警告說：「他們將從各方上來攻擊你們。」

So Nehemiah set up guards to protect the builders and he gave them a pep talk, saying, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.”

Thanks to Nehemiah’s dedication and inspiration, the wall was rebuilt in only 52 days.



於是尼希米就派警衛來保護建造者，並對他們說鼓勵的話：「不要怕他們。當記念主是大而可畏的。你們要為弟兄、兒女、妻子和家產爭戰。」

城牆僅僅在52天內就被重建成功，這在上要歸功於尼希米對這個目標的全心投入和對人民的激勵。

The Parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.

“There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “who neither feared God nor cared about people. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, ‘Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’ The

judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’”



寡婦與法官的比喻

耶穌講了一個比喻來教導門徒要常常禱告，不要灰心。

祂說：「某城有一位既不敬畏上帝也不尊重人的審判官。那城裡有一位寡婦常常來哀求這位審判官，說，『求你為我伸冤，懲辦我的對頭。』 審判官總是充耳不聞，但後來心裡想，『雖然我不怕上帝，也不在乎人，可是這寡婦一直來煩我，還是替她伸冤好了，免得她再來煩我！』」

Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don’t you think God will surely give justice to his children who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly!”



主接著說：
「你們聽，
這不義的審
判官尚且這
麼說，難道
上帝聽到祂
揀選的人晝
夜呼求，不
替他們伸冤
嗎？難道祂
會一直耽延
不理嗎？我
告訴你們，
祂必很快為
他們伸冤。」

www.freekidstories.org

Image Credits:

Page 1: Image copyright CEF; used under [Creative Commons license](#)

Page 2-3: Images courtesy of Mr BibleHead. Used under [Creative Commons license](#)

Page 4-6: Images copyright CEF; used under [Creative Commons license](#)

Pages 7-8: Art by [Didier Martin](#)

Text from the Bible and Bible-based sources