Introduction: This woman was not a leader like Moses, never faced death as Daniel, did not go to war as Deborah, she did not save her people like Esther. She lived an average life in service to God. She lived during difficult times; immoral conduct, famine, and wars.

**I) Service and Hospitality, vv. 8-11**

**A) She did not approach life thinking of what she could not do.**

1. I must do what I can.

2. She said, here are my circumstances and I'll do what I can. (She consulted with her husband. Was in subjection but showed initiative.)

**B) She could feed God's prophet**

1. She was not the prophet but she could help him do his job.

2. Not impressive but this was essential.

**C) This woman could also offer the prophet a place to stay.**

1. A place to rest: a table, a chair, a bed, and a candlestick.

**D) This woman said, "I will do what I can."**

1. What could she do? Cook!

**E) It is a mistake to excuse ourselves from service**

1. We do not all have the same abilities and opportunities, **1 Corinthians12.26-30; Galatians 6.10**

2. God's works requires the effort of all His servants, **Ephesians 4.15-16**

**F) Service to God is not dependent on what others are doing.**

1. The real point, "Am I doing what I can for God?"

2. Those who look to what others are doing are looking at the lowest common denominator.

**G) We need to have the same qualities.**

1. Use our homes to serve God. Practice hospitality to strangers and each other.

2. Show compassion: the need she fulfilled was real. How many houses did Elisha pass by?

3. She was willing to sacrifice. Sacrifices are never cheap or easy.

**II) She Showed Contentment- I will dwell among my people, vv. 11-13**

**A) What is to be done for you?**

1. How would you have responded?

2. Her service was not based on self gratification.

**B) We live in a world looking for contentment- sex, alcohol, drugs, violence, etc.**

1. Contentment is learned, **Phil. 4.11.**

2. Not based on what you have but on your outlook on life.

**C) This woman knew how to forget herself, and serve God, Phil. 4.6-7**

**III) She Had Faith In God-- It is well, vv. 18ff**

**A) The promise of a child.**

**B) The child gets sick**

1. The fathers sends the child back to its mother and momma rocks him until he dies.

2. What would you have done? Bitterness, despair, anger, etc.

3. She went to the prophet of God.

**C) When asked, v. 26**

1. She trusted in God, despite the lifeless body.

2. She knew God's power, **Matthew 17.20; Luke 18.8**

3. Greatness does not require a "big name" or "big plans" or "big actions" or a "big house". Using our abilities to serve God.

Conclusion: Who should not obey the Gospel at this time? Those who do not believe in God, **Hebrews 11.6.** Those who do not believe in Jesus as the Son of God, **John 8.24.** Those who have no sin, **1 Timothy 1.15.** Those who desire to be lost, **Romans 1.16.** Those who are not willing to submit to God's will, **Revelation 2.10.**