

THE EBB AND FLOW OF LIFE

Because of his willingness to confront King Ahab for his unrighteous and pagan ways, *the* **PROPHET ELIJAH** often found himself fleeing for his life. In the First Book of Kings, we read how God sends him to the safety of the Brook Cherith, where he not only finds shelter, but food and refreshing waters. Elijah's fortunes change quickly, however, and soon that brook, which brought him much-needed dries up and is utterly worthless to him. For the Phophet, joy had become depair.

How often do we see this happening on our own lives? How many times has our good fortune turned to bad almost overnight? Our once-thriving business suddenly fails . . . our high-value stocks suddenly plmmet . . . the "love of our life" forsakes us. Yes, life is truly filled with "dried up brooks."

Yet we must believe that things always happen for a reason. As the old saying Goes, "**When God closes a door, He always open a window somewhere.**" When the Brook Cherith dried up and the outlook for Elijah was at its bleakest point, we read in the Frist Book of Kings that the word of God came to him. God had not led him there so that he could die. No, He had other planas for him, setting Elijah on a path wtat would eventually take him back to the king so that he could show the power of the one true God of Israel. Elijah listened to the voice of God, and so must we. We must be receptive to what His new plan for us may be, just as Elijah was. When our world seems to be falling apart, this is precisely the time to put our trust in the Lord. When darkness engulfs us, we must seek the true Light to brighten our path. Yes, "**dried up books**" can be transformed very quickly, if we recognize the right "**Source**" needed to fill them!