

## Sounds Week 1

### *It Is Well*

#### Bible Study: *It Is Well*

**Hermeneutics** refers to the principles and methods we use to interpret Scripture accurately.

### How to Read and Understand Old Testament Prophecy

#### Interpretation Begins with God's Word, Not Our Assumptions

##### The Three Key Steps

1. **Exegesis** – “Drawing out” the original meaning from the text.
2. **Hermeneutics** – Determining how that meaning carries forward to today.
3. **Application** – Bringing God's truth into our lives today.

##### Major Prophets

These are longer prophetic books:

1. **Isaiah**
2. **Jeremiah**
3. **Lamentations** (*written by Jeremiah, often grouped here*)
4. **Ezekiel**
5. **Daniel**

##### Minor Prophets

Also called *The Twelve* in the Hebrew Bible (often counted as one book in Jewish tradition):

1. Hosea
2. Joel
3. Amos
4. Obadiah
5. Jonah
6. Micah
7. Nahum
8. Habakkuk
9. Zephaniah
10. Haggai
11. Zechariah
12. Malachi

#### Review: How We Got Here

- *Chronicles* focuses almost entirely on **Judah** and the **Davidic line** (leading to Jesus).
- *Kings* gives us the history of **both Israel and Judah**, highlighting the political and spiritual failures of the Northern Kingdom as well.

#### A Quick Refresher on the Story So Far

**From Egypt to the Promised Land**  
**The Era of the Judges**

**The United Kingdom  
The Divided Kingdom  
Where We Are Now—Spiritual Freefall in Israel  
What does this passage teach me about the character and nature of God?**

**Deuteronomy 4:7–8**

“What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?”

**The Depth of Israel’s Sin**

- **Child Sacrifice —**
- **Ritual Prostitution**
- **Occult Practices**
- **Astrological Worship**
- **Drunken Pagan Feasts**
- **Rampant Violence and Injustice**
- **Oppression of the Poor**
- **Persecution of God’s Prophets**

**Why the Judgments Are So Extreme**

**A Remnant Who Will Not Go with the Flow**

**The Poor Widow (2 Kings 4:1 – 7)**

**The Wealthy Shunammite (2 Kings 4:8–37)**

**2 Kings 4:22–26 (NKJV)**

**22** Then she called to her husband, and said, “Please send me one of the young men and one of the donkeys, that I may run to the man of God and come back.”

**23** So he said, “Why are you going to him today? *It is* neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath.”

And she said, “***It is well.***” **24** Then she saddled a donkey, and said to her servant, “Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace for me unless I tell you.” **25** And so she departed, and went to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

So it was, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to his servant Gehazi, “Look, the Shunammite woman! **26** Please run now to meet her, and say to her, ‘*Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?*’ ” **And she answered, “*It is well.*”**

**The Faithful Ephraimite (2 Kings 4:42–44)**

The prophet Hosea writes: “*Ephraim is joined to idols; leave him alone!*” (Hosea 4:17).

**“Baal-shalishah”.**

**Baal** is a proper name/title for the Canaanite **storm and fertility god**.

**It Is Well...Even in a Time of National Apostasy**

When chaos is reigning around them, they’re able to say “***it is well.***” How?

- **By remembering God’s character**
- **By refusing cultural shortcuts**
- **By staying close to the true source**
- **By knowing God takes what we have** and turns it into what we need.