# Elijah Study

Week 1

# Talk with Your Neighbors

What do you already know about Elijah and/or the time in which Elijah lived?

# As we begin our study...

I don't want an information dump.

We should see Elijah's story as <u>OUR HISTORY</u> as people who have been baptized into Christ.

In the Hebrew ordering of the Old Testament, 1 & 2 Kings are placed in the section of <u>FORMER PROPHETS</u>.

What matters most is not a king's military or political successes, but rather, the king's <u>FAITHFULNESS</u> <u>TO GOD</u>.

The theology of 1 & 2 Kings is closely tied to the book of DEUTERONOMY.

- 1. Worship of the LORD
- 2. Kingly Faithfulness

#### Deuteronomy 17:14-15a, 18-20

When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,' you may indeed set a king over you whom the LORD your God will choose... And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

The theology of 1 & 2 Kings is closely tied to the book of DEUTERONOMY.

- 1. Worship of the LORD
- 2. Kingly Faithfulness
- 3. The Power of God's Word

#### Deuteronomy 18:21–22

And if you say in your heart, 'How may we know the word that the LORD has not spoken?'— when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.

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- 1. Worship of the LORD
- 2. Kingly Faithfulness
- 3. The Power of God's Word
- 4. Curses for Covenant Breaking

# Deuteronomy 28:23–24

And the heavens over your head shall be bronze, and the earth under you shall be iron. The LORD will make the rain of your land powder. From heaven dust shall come down on you until you are destroyed.

# Intro to Elijah

Elijah is a "prophet" and a "man of God."

A "prophet" SPEAKS ON GOD'S BEHALF.

A "man of God" PERFORMS MIRACLES.

# Intro to Elijah

The main opponent of Elijah's ministry was BAAL.

- Elijah's message hinged on "as the LORD lives."
- Baal was the Canaanite god of rain.

# Intro to Elijah

The Scriptures speak of Elijah being a precursor to <u>JOHN</u> THE <u>BAPTIST</u>.

- 1. Style of Dress
- 2. Hostile Political Power (and wife)
- 3. Anointing Successors at the Jordan River
- 4. Greatness of their Successor