



Elijah in Despair

1 Kings 19:1-8



Discuss

1. Who is the strongest person you know? How do you see this strength?
2. In Elijah, we see someone with strength FALTER.



Recap

1. Elijah is coming off of a MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE.
2. Ahab possibly showed signs of a CHANGED HEART.



1 Kings 19:1–2

1. Ahab and Jezebel had the chance to KILL Elijah, but didn't.
2. What was Jezebel trying to do by sending Elijah this message?
3. What does this oath tell us about Jezebel?



1 Kings 19:1–2

4. Jezebel witnessed the miracle of fire from the sky and yet doesn't believe. Does Jezebel's unbelief seem unrealistic?

5. How might such unbelief happen in our world?

6. What acts of God do we often ignore?



1 Kings 19:3–4

1. Do you find it surprising to see Elijah afraid in this way?
2. Elijah's JOY turned to PANIC turned to DESPAIR.



1 Kings 19:3–4

- a. He had expected all of Israel to REPENT but now it appears that Israel still isn't safe.
- b. Elijah didn't immediately receive a WORD FROM THE LORD.
- c. Elijah considers his problem UNSOLVABLE. Jezebel and Ahab will never turn to the LORD.



1 Kings 19:3–4

4. From this prayer, we learn that Elijah sees his ministry as a BURDEN. (“Enough now!”)
5. Was Elijah wrong to fear and despair like this?



1 Kings 19:3–4

6. What did Elijah fail to grasp?

- a. God is in CONTROL.
- b. God will WIN in the end.
- c. God's plan is BIGGER than ours.

7. Have you ever wrestled with these same things?



1 Kings 19:3–4

8. What can we learn from seeing Elijah's weakness on display?

“The best of men are but men at best.” –
Charles Spurgeon



1 Kings 19:5–8

1. How did God minister to Elijah?
2. God first took care of Elijah's PHYSICAL NEEDS.
Is this what you would have expected?
3. The angel says that Elijah should prepare for a journey that is TOO GREAT for him.



1 Kings 19:5–8

4. What's the significance of Mt. Horeb for Elijah/Israelites?

5. How is God ministering to us?



Closing Discussion

1. What could a despairing person take from this story?
2. What could the Church do for those in our lives who are despairing like Elijah?