

# Disciple's Quest

*If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31

August 26, 2018

Spiritual Restoration

1 Kings 19

## **Main idea:**

1 Kings 19 is not only about Elijah's collapse into spiritual failure. The great theme of the chapter is God's intervention in Elijah's life to restore him to spiritual health and usefulness.

## **Outline:**

God restored Elijah to spiritual health and usefulness through four actions.

1) God remained with Elijah

2) God spoke to Elijah

3) God encouraged Elijah with the reality of His divine sovereignty

a) He showed Elijah that He does not typically carry out His work through outwardly miraculous or sensational means, but rather through "ordinary" faithful ministry

b) He clarified for Elijah that His sovereignty always includes His justice

c) He reminded Elijah that His sovereignty incorporates His faithfulness

4) God gave Elijah a ministry partner to help share the burden

## Questions for further contemplation and application following the message:

1. Why do you think Elijah ran to Horeb (Mount Sinai)?

Although he seems to have been attempting to draw nearer to the LORD, apparently he set out on his journey hastily, without ever seeking God's permission or guidance. Have you ever attempted to seek or serve God in your own way without first consulting Him in His word and in prayer?

2. God twice asked Elijah "what are you doing here?" in order to root out the sin in his heart. Reflecting on Elijah's answer (vv. 10, 14), make a list of Elijah's specific sins.

Ultimately, what was he guilty of?

Is it possible to be restored to spiritual health and usefulness if we remain in unrepentant sin?

Why do many churches in our time seemingly attempt to blunt the conviction for sins that the word of God naturally produces?

When Scripture assaults our conscience and causes us to experience sorrow over sin, what course of action should we take?

3. Why do you think God typically chooses to do His work through "ordinary" faithful ministry instead of through the miraculous?
4. Do you find God's perfect justice encouraging or alarming?
5. What does the cross have to do with God's justice?