

Finding God in the Disruption

1 Kings 17:1

Elijah Prophesied -

...there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

18:1

“After a long time, in the third year, the word of the Lord came to Elijah: “Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land.””

- Elijah confronts Ahab the King and calls the 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah to meet at the top of Mt. Carmel.
- He Challenged them there to build an Altar and make a Sacrifice on it and the God who answers by fire, He is God.
- They Built an Altars with wood and sacrificed a bull on it.
- **The Prophets of Baal went first.**
 - They Shouted and prophesied
 - They called on the name of Baal from morning till noon.
 - At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.”
 - So they shouted louder and they cut themselves with sword and spears
 - This went on until evening.
 - But there was no response, no one answered,
- Elijah then rebuilt the Altar.
- He had them pour water all over it until the water ran down around the altar and filled the trenches...

Vs. 36-38

36 At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. 37 Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

40 Then Elijah commanded them, “Seize the prophets of Baal. Don’t let anyone get away!” They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there.

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1 Kings 19

1 Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. 2 So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.”

Vs. 3-6

3 Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, 4 while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, Lord,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.” 5 Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

All at once an angel touched him and said, “Get up and eat.” 6 He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water.

Vs 8,9

8 So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached **Horeb**, the mountain of God.

9 There he went into a cave and spent the night.

Elijah has switched from Courage to Fear

That’s easy to do...

They have found that Both Courage and Fear come from the same place in the brain...

So Elijah Vs. 8 travels forty days until he reached a place called Horeb...

What’s Horeb:

1. It was at Mt. Horeb that Moses saw God in a Burning Bush...
2. It was at Mt. Horeb that Moses struck the rock and out came water...
3. It was there that God spoke to the Israelites from the fire...
4. Horeb was the place where Moses meet with God...

Horeb means: Dry or Desert.

Isn't that interesting that the Mount of God is called a Dry, Desert.
God shows up in dry, desert places...

The Lord said in - Is. 41:18

I will make rivers flow on barren heights,
and springs within the valleys.
I will turn the desert into pools of water,
and the parched ground into springs.

David said - Ps. 107:35

He turned the desert into pools of water
and the parched ground into flowing springs;

Elijah was a ball of emotions...

One minute victorious, the next scared and defeated...

He shifted from Courageous to Fearful...

Do you know what will shift that back?

Ohhh just a little talk with Jesus makes it right...

Vs.9-13

And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

10 He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

11 The Lord said, "**Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.**"

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. 13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

There was a wind...

There was an earthquake...

There was fire...

Do you know what the word for Wind/Earthquake/Fire means in Hebrew?
It means: Wind/Earthquake/Fire

Do you know what those things are? Disruptions

And the word of God says, God was not in them...

Vs. 12

And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

- After the noise
- After the other disruptions there was a still small voice...
- That's what switches everything from fear back to courage...

Vs. 13

When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Closing: