

1 Kings 18

War

- Ahab reigns over now **completely pagan Northern Kingdom**
- **Milk toast following his evil wife** Jezebel's lead; witchy woman

God will not always strive with man...

- Now three years with no rain/not dew/ People are dying/rations are running out

Enter Elijah who pronounces Judgment on the Northern Kingdom of Israel

I. Elijah's Message to Ahab: I Challenge Your Religion

1 And it came to pass after many days that the **word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year...**

- Word of the Lord to Elijah...**go!**
 1. **Go** to Ahab
 2. **Go** hide at the Brook Cherith
 3. **Go** to the Widow
 4. **Go back to Ahab...**

1b... "Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth."

- **We don't "hide" forever:** Gain strength to GO hit it again

Go to Ahab... I will make it rain

- Baal was said to have power over nature
- Who has ultimate power over Nature?

Mark 4:35 [Read] ...[Jesus] said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side." 36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. 37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. 38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" 39 Then He arose and **rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.** 40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, **"Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"**

- **Satan caused the storm:** Borrowed power
- **Jesus calms the storm:** Innate power

This is personal for the Lord...Only He is the God of Nature [Plagues of Egypt]

2 So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab; and there was a severe famine in Samaria.

- **Drought and famine:**

1. Elijah, widow, and her son are "fit as a fiddle"
2. Everyone else is suffering...

- **Book of Revelation:** Judgments for denying God as Creator; i.e. **Natures God**

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. First Seal | White Horse | Anti-Christ |
| 2. Second Seal | Red Horse | War |
| 3. Third Seal | Black Horse | Famine |

- Drought/Famine ravishing people due attributing God's power to the devil

3 And Ahab had called Obadiah, who was in charge of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly.)

- **Obadiah:** Lit. "Worshiper of YHWH" or "Servant of YHWH"
- Possible writer of Obadiah [though 13 Obadiah's in Scripture]
 1. In charge of evil Ahab/Jezebel's household
 2. **Believer in the Lord:** Feared the Lord "greatly". ***Proved it with action***

4 For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)

- **New information:** Jezebel massacred prophets of the Lord: i.e. Demonic Bloodbath
- **Obadiah risks his life to save those left...**

As it is horrible to find a Judas among the apostles, so it is grand to discover an Obadiah among Ahab's [yes-men]. [Spurgeon]

1. **Hides 100 prophets** in two separate caves
2. Regularly brings them food/water

- What we do for God's people we are doing for Him...

Matthew 10:40 "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. 41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, **he shall by no means lose his reward.**"

Ahab is unaware of Obadiah's actions...

5 And Ahab had said to Obadiah, "Go into the land to all the springs of water and to all the brooks; perhaps we may find grass to keep the horses and mules alive, so that we will not have to kill any livestock."

- Go to the dry brooks, look for something green
- If you fail we will have to kill the animals
- **NOTE:** Ahab though more of animals than people...priorities skewed?

1. Save the whales
2. Destroy the humans

- **Ahab desperate for water...**

6 So [Obadiah and Ahab] divided the land between them to explore it; Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

- King and his servant searching the land in search of anything green...

7 Now as Obadiah was on his way, suddenly Elijah met him; and he recognized him, and fell on his face, and said, "Is that you, my lord Elijah?"
8 And he answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your master, 'Elijah is here.'"

- **Obadiah literally bumps into Elijah in the woods...**

1. Recognizes the Prophet
2. Falls on his face before the prophet
3. Given a dangerous mission by the prophet...

...go, tell your master, 'Elijah is here.'

- **Simple instructions except...**

1. Ahab has been looking for Elijah
2. Obadiah has been hiding prophets and does not want to be found out

9 So [Obadiah] said to [Elijah], "How have I sinned, that you are delivering your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me? 10 As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you. 11 And now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Elijah is here"'! 12 And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of the Lord will carry you to a place I do not know; so when I go and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will kill me.

- **What did I ever do to you Elijah?**

1. Ahab has been hunting for you for 3 years
2. You have a tendency to disappear

**If I tell him you here and you're not... its curtains for me
I'm really a good guy...don't throw me under the bus...**

12b...But I your servant have feared the Lord from my youth. 13 Was it not reported to my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, how I hid one hundred men of the Lord's prophets, fifty to a cave, and fed

them with bread and water? 14 And now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Elijah is here.'" He will kill me! 15 Then Elijah said, "As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely present myself to him today."

- **Obadiah:** Here's my resume
- **Elijah: I will do as I said/I won't disappear:** Now go to Ahab...

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. 17 Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, **"Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"**

- Troubler of Israel? Really?
- **Ahab:**
 1. Leader of Northern Kingdom; leading the people astray
 2. **Wife Jezebel:** Witch, and the real leader of the Northern Kingdom
 3. Devil Worship: Demonic sexual worship resulting in unwanted pregnancies
 4. Leading to Child Sacrifice
 5. Not to mention...Murderer of God's people

Gaul of Ahab... "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

- **Gaul of politicians turning reality/truth on its head**
 1. One party signing bill against allowing men into BR's with little girls
 2. Other party chanting **"Shame, shame!"**

Isaiah 59:9 [Read] Therefore justice is far from us, Nor does righteousness overtake us; We look for light, but there is darkness! For brightness, but we walk in blackness! 10 We grope for the wall like the blind, And we grope as if we had no eyes; We stumble at noonday as at twilight; We are as dead men in desolate places. 11 We all growl like bears, And moan sadly like doves; We look for justice, but there is none; For salvation, but it is far from us. 12 For our transgressions are multiplied before You, And our sins testify against us; For our transgressions are with us, And as for our iniquities, we know them: 13 In transgressing and lying against the Lord, And departing from our God, Speaking oppression and revolt, Conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. 14 Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter. 15 So truth fails, And he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the Lord saw it, and it displeased Him That there was no justice. 16 He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him

- **Troublemakers of today?**
 1. Those who believe in sanctity of life
 2. Those who believe in righteousness
 3. Those who believe in self-discipline rather than self-medicating
 4. Those who believe in absolute truth
 5. Those who believe in law and order
 6. Those who believe in quick discipline as a deterrent

Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

18 And [Elijah] answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals.

- You have caused this judgment Ahab
 1. Left God to follow the devil
 2. Left Truth to follow falseness
 3. Left Wisdom to follow folly

**Left righteousness to follow lawlessness/dictates of your wicked heart
...then you blame me for the consequences...**



The Oriental Instituted, excavating at Megiddo, which is near Samaria, found, in the stratum of Ahab's time, the ruins of a Temple of Ashtoreth, goddess wife of Baal. Just a few steps from this temple was a cemetery where many jars were found containing remains of infants who had been sacrificed in this temple. Prophets of Baal and Ashtoreth were official murderers of little children. This is a sidelight on Elijah's execution of the prophets of Baal, and helps us to understand why Jehu was so ruthless in the extermination of Baalism. [Halley's Bible Handbook pg. 198]

- You know better...**and still don't repent.**

Still blaming those who spoke truth to you. You still wallowing in your victim mentality
...instead of just simply saying **"I was wrong"**

Because you will not repent and lead the people in the way of Righteousness
We are going to have a showdown for all to see...

19 Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who **eat at Jezebel's table.**"

- Therefore...time to put your money where your mouth is

The Lord God challenges your Baal to a fight...to the death

- **I Challenge your Religion! I challenge all religion!**

1. 450 Prophets of Baal
2. 400 Prophets of Asherah

The ones who eat at Jezebel [Bride of Frankenstein's] Table

- Jezebel is already known for killing God's true prophets
- Elijah's got guts. His strength from the Lord

We don't pray "Lord give me strength"...Instead we pray, "**Lord be my Strength**"

SUMMARY Elijah's Message to Ahab: I challenge your religion

2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being ready to **punish all disobedience** when your obedience is fulfilled.

**We challenge every Religion with the Person of Christ. No contest.
Make no mistake...We are to Make War!**

II. Elijah's Mount Carmel Victory

20 So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel.

- **Ahab sells tickets to the show at Mount Carmel amphitheater**

1. **Gathers people of Israel:** Spectators
2. **Gathers prophets of Baal:** Gladiators...really?

- **Deck seems stacked against Elijah**

1. All God's priests sent away to Jerusalem by Jeroboam and son
2. Prophets of true God hidden in caves
3. Jezebel killed the rest of the true prophets of God v13
4. Believers living in secret such as Obadiah
5. Basically Elijah and God against everyone else

The Battle is the Lord's Battle

One of God's kids are a majority against any enemy...and the victory is sure

- **David and Goliath match:**

1 Samuel 17:45 [David to the Giant...] "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth

may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; **for the battle is the Lord's**, and He will give you into our hands."

- **Jonathan coming against multitude of Philistines...**

1 Samuel 14:6 Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the Lord will work for us. [For **nothing restrains the Lord from saving by many or by few.**"]

**The Battle is the Lord's Battle
One of God's kids is a majority against any enemy...and the victory is sure**

"That lone man, of heroic soul, stemmed the fearful torrent of idolatry, and like a rock in mid-current, firmly stood his ground. He, alone and single-handed, was more than a match for all the priests of the palace and the groves, even as one lion scatters a flock of sheep." [Spurgeon]

- **Elijah is fearless...**for now

21 And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him."

- **How long will you falter:** Lit. to limp, halt, hop, dance, or leap

"How many more sermons do you want? How many more Sundays must roll away wasted? How many warnings, how many sicknesses, how many rings of the bell to warn you that you must die? How many graves must be dug for your family before you will be impressed? How many plagues and pestilences must ravage this city [world] before you will turn to God in truth? How long [will you dawdle] between two opinions?" [Spurgeon]

- **Moment of decision...** Compromise is not an option

1. Saved by grace alone
2. Saved through faith alone
3. Salvation by Jesus alone

Do we trust in anything but Jesus alone to save?
Good works, church affiliation, relatives' faith, superstition, etc.?

- Ahab and the north were trusting in Baal with a little YHWH sprinkled on top

Jesus plus anything equals nothing.
Adding to Jesus work on the cross nullifies the work of the cross

**Compromise is not an option: We must choose to serve the True God
If we fail to choose we have still made a choice**

Joshua 24:14 "Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! 15 And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other

side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**"

- The implication of bumper sticker **"Co-exist"**
 1. We don't want to rock the boat
 2. There is no absolute truth
 3. Who is anyone to say what is right/wrong
- They "co-exist" crowd want to come off as noble/high minded
- **In fact it is not noble**...it is compromise, inability to make a decision and cowardly

Greatest choice in all of Life...Choose God who has proven Himself by His Word

**Are we ready to say that all religion is from the pit of hell?
If it doesn't lead to Salvation it leads to damnation**

Elijah: Get off the fence...Choose this day who you will serve...
Because you will serve someone; God or the Devil...Righteousness or Sin
But you can't choose both.

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other.

[Israel] ...does not want to give up their illicit lover. The marriage partner has a legitimate claim to the exclusive devotion of their spouse. [Guzik]

"...If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him."

21b...But the people answered him not a word.

There was no objection and no repentance. They lacked the courage to either defend their position or to change it. They were willing to live unexamined lives of low conviction. [Guzik]

22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

- **I alone:** All God's prophets in north are hidden in two caves [bad seed of thought]
- 450 False Prophets against one true prophet

23 Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it.

- **Logistics of the Challenge**
 1. Need two bulls
 2. Take your bull cut it up and lay it on wood

3. I'll cut up my bull and lay it on some wood

24 Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God."

- You call on Baal and Ashtoreth
- I will call on YHWH

Whoever brings the fire is the true God

...So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken."

- We like that...

25 Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare it first, for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it." 26 So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "**O Baal, hear us!**" But there was no voice; no one answered.

- Six hours of calling out to Baal/Krishna/Buddha/Allah
- There was not voice; no one answered

There is only one Living God who hears, sees, touches, speaks

- The only voices of idols, religions, isms **are that of demons...**

Deuteronomy 32:16 They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; With abominations they provoked Him to anger. 17 They **sacrificed to demons, not to God...**

1 Corinthians 10:20 Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they **sacrifice to demons and not to God**, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. 22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

- There was not voice; no one answered

26b... Then they leaped about the altar which they had made.

- Getting desperate

27 And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened."

- Sarcasm toward idol worshipers and evil people throughout the HE Word
- **Cry Louder!**
 1. **He is god right.** This is the one you forsook the truth for right.
 2. Maybe he's thinking
 3. Maybe he's busy [in the bathroom?]

4. Maybe he left
5. Maybe he's just napping

28 So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. ²⁹ And when midday was past, they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice...

- People cried, people leaped, people cut themselves until blood gushed out on them
- **Prophesied:** Lit. Raved; i.e. under the influence of a demonic spirit

Thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy

- Voices in people's heads to kill others
- Cutting of selves...why? Demonic

Mark 9:22 [Father to Jesus of the demon possessing his son...] [The demon] has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us"... **25** When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "**Deaf and dumb spirit**, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" **26** Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." **27** But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

- Not mental illness but a demon only delivered by the mighty Name of Jesus

Mark 5:1 [Read] Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. **2** And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, **3** who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, **4** because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. **5** And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones... **8** For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!"...[Hope for those who deal with it for what it is] ...**15** Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind.

- People cried, people leaped, people cut themselves until blood gushed out on them

29b...But there was no voice; no one answered, **no one paid attention.**

- **Deaf and dumb demonic spirit of religion:** Heartless, uncaring, demanding worship but giving nothing in return except pain, death, and suffering

This is what a dying world refuses to give up instead of turning to the true God?
Refuse to look at the serpent lifted up and be healed

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down. **31** And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name."

- **12 Stones for 12 Tribes of Israel**

1. Remind the people that there is one God; God of Israel [Jacob and sons]
2. Convict the people there are 12 tribes now divided
3. Reveal their sad state compared to glory of David's Kingdom

What a mess after forsaking the Living God for the nobility of co-existing with evil

32 Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed. 33 And he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood

- In sight of the people of Israel **On Mount Carmel**

1. He alone constructs the Altar
2. He alone digs a trench
3. He alone arranges the wood
4. He alone lays down the sacrifice

[Elijah said...] "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood." 34 Then he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time; and he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. 35 So the water ran all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water.

Fill Four Water pots? There is still a drought. People obey...

1. 4 water pots poured on sacrifice 3 times
2. Sacrifice soaked/Trench is filled with water all around

36 And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the **evening sacrifice**, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "**Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel**, let it be known this day that **You are God in Israel** and I am Your servant, and that I have done **all these things at Your word**. 37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that **You are the Lord God**, and that **You have turned their hearts back to You again.**"

- **Evening Sacrifice:**

1. As per Jewish Law
2. Contradicting Jeroboams decree to stop
3. **Twilight:** Time between Light and Dark

- **Elijah Prays:** Came near so people could hear

1. You are God/I am your servant
2. I have done what you told me to do; i.e. "...at Your Word"

- **Elijah did not act on presumption but on God's Word**

1. The Lord told him what to do
2. The Lord told him what would happen when he did it
3. The Lord told Elijah why He needed Elijah to do it...

To turn the people's hearts back to God!

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.

- **Fire fell and devoured...**

1. Burnt Sacrifice
2. Wood
3. Stones
4. Dust
5. Water

Nothing Left

39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, **"The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"**

- Common people still able to make a choice
- False-prophets are shown no quarter/no mercy...

40 And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the **Brook Kishon** and executed them there.

People's hearts turn back to God as they witness His wrath!

Same will happen in Tribulation as Elijah ushers in God's wrath once again. Israel will return

**The people who now know the Lord is God...Hearts are turned back to the Lord
...now serve the Lord**

- **People seize 450 false prophets**
- Elijah goes down to base of Mt. Carmel
- Elijah executes all of them there **"with the sword"** Ch. 19 v

Deuteronomy 18:20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet **shall die.**

- **Previous victory for Israel at Kishon**

Judges 5:21 The **torrent of Kishon swept them away**, That ancient torrent, the torrent of Kishon.

Tragically, this was only a momentary persuasion. This was no lasting revival in Israel. The people were decidedly persuaded, but not lastingly changed. [Guzik]

- Choose this day...

The Sword of the Spirit...Word of God divides Good/Evil, Light/Dark, Life/Death

Matthew 10:34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. 35 For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; 36 and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' 37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. 39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it."

SUMMARY Elijah's Message to Ahab

III. Drought Ends

41 Then **Elijah said to Ahab**, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain."

- **No rain is 3.5 years:**

Elijah hears the sound of abundance of rain

- **NOTE:** Ahab just witnessed 850 false-prophets executed at the base of Carmel

V19four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

- **Elijah to Ahab:** Rain is coming now go up and eat...

42 So Ahab went up to eat and drink...

- Insensitivity/Apathy of King Ahab...

42...And Elijah went up to **the top of Carmel**; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, 43 and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea."

- Elijah climbs back up Carmel where the Lord answered him
 1. Bowed in humility: Face between his knees
 2. Sent his servant to cliff overlooking sea

43b...So [the servant] went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again."

- Servant looks ... "nothing"
- Back and forth six times

44 Then it came to pass the **seventh time**, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'"

- **Seventh time:** Small cloud rising from sea
- **Sends Servant to Ahab**

'Prepare your chariot, and get out before the rain stops you.'

45 Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel.

Rains so heavy Ahab had to leave for Jezreel

46 Then the hand of the Lord came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

- **Hand of the Lord came upon Elijah:**
 1. Holy Spirit comes upon the prophet
 2. Runs past Ahab both headed to Jezreel

SUMMARY Drought Ends