

REDEEMER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WHO'S IT  
GOING TO BE?



July 24, 2022  
Pastor Jeremy

# THOUGHT

Full of faith, Elijah is bold as he goes before his friend Obadiah and before Ahab. He calls on God to act in a very famous contest at Mount Carmel.

# 1 KINGS 18:20–24

So Ahab sent orders among all the sons of Israel and brought the prophets together at Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup>Then Elijah approached all the people and said, “How long are you going to struggle with the two choices? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.” But the people did not answer him so much as a word. <sup>22</sup>Then Elijah said to the people, “I alone am left as a prophet of the LORD, while Baal’s prophets are 450 men.

# 1 KINGS 18:20-24

<sup>23</sup>Now have them give us two oxen; and have them choose the one ox for themselves and cut it up, and place it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other ox and lay it on the wood, and I will not put a fire under it. <sup>24</sup>Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." And all the people replied, "That is a good idea."

# 1 KINGS 18:25–29

So Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose the one ox for yourselves and prepare it first, since there are many of you, and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under the ox.” <sup>26</sup>Then they took the ox which was given them and they prepared it, and they called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, “O Baal, answer us!” But there was no voice and no one answered. And they limped about the altar which they had made.

# 1 KINGS 18:25–29

<sup>27</sup>And at noon Elijah ridiculed them and said, “Call out with a loud voice, since he is a god; undoubtedly he is attending to business, or is on the way, or is on a journey. Perhaps he is asleep, and will awaken.” <sup>28</sup>So they cried out with a loud voice, and cut themselves according to their custom with swords and lances until blood gushed out on them.

# 1 KINGS 18:25–29

<sup>29</sup>When midday was past, they raved until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice; but there was no voice, no one answered, and no one paid attention.

# 1 KINGS 18:30–35

Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come forward to me.” So all the people came forward to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD which had been torn down. <sup>31</sup>Then Elijah took twelve stones, corresponding 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.”



# 1 KINGS 18:30–35

<sup>32</sup>And 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 measures of seed. <sup>33</sup>Then he laid out the wood, and he cut the ox in pieces and placed it on the wood. <sup>34</sup>And he said, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood.”

# 1 KINGS 18:30–35

And he said, “Do it a second time,” so they did it a second time. Then he said, “Do it a third time,” so they did it a third time. <sup>35</sup>The water flowed around the altar, and he also filled the trench with water.

# THOUGHT

Elijah just experienced an incredible victory, calling down fire from heaven, and seeing an end to the drought as heavy rains begin to fall. While the climax of all of this is happening, Elijah is gripped with fear because of some unwelcome news.

# 1 KINGS 19:1-8

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup>Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more so, if by about this time tomorrow I do not make your life like the life of one of them." <sup>3</sup>And he was afraid, and got up and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah; and he left his servant there.

# 1 KINGS 19:1-8

<sup>4</sup>But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree; and he asked for himself to die, and said, "Enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down and fell asleep under a broom tree; but behold, there was an angel touching him, and he said to him, "Arise, eat!"

# 1 KINGS 19:1-8

<sup>6</sup>And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a round loaf of bread baked on hot coals, and a pitcher of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>But the angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him, and said, "Arise, eat; because the journey is too long for you." <sup>8</sup>So he arose and ate and drank, and he journeyed in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of God.

# THOUGHT

We need to keep a right perspective, sometimes things don't turn out how we were expecting and worse, sometimes we feel bad for ourselves when something goes wrong after we just experienced an incredible move of God.

# 1 KINGS 19:9-21

Then he came there to a cave and spent the night there; and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” <sup>10</sup>And he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of armies; for the sons of Israel have abandoned Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they have sought to take my life.”



# 1 KINGS 19:9–21

So He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD was passing by! And a great and powerful wind was tearing out the mountains and breaking the rocks in pieces before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.<sup>12</sup> And after the earthquake, a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire, a sound of a gentle blowing.

# 1 KINGS 19:9-21

<sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, a voice came to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” <sup>14</sup>Then he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of armies; for the sons of Israel have abandoned Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they have sought to take my life.”

# LISTEN FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

- It wasn't in the great wing
- It wasn't in the powerful earthquake
- It wasn't in the fire
- It was in the gentle blowing, the whisper

SOMETIMES...

The voice of the Lord isn't where we  
are expecting it.

# 1 KINGS 19:9–21

The LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you have arrived, you shall anoint Hazael king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>You shall also anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

# 1 KINGS 19:9-21

<sup>17</sup>And it shall come about that the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall put to death.

<sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

# 1 KINGS 19:9-21

So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat while he was plowing, with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he with the twelfth. And Elijah came over to him and threw his cloak on him. <sup>20</sup>Then he left the oxen behind and ran after Elijah, and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back, for [g]what have I done to you?"

# 1 KINGS 19:9-21

<sup>21</sup>So he returned from following him, and took the pair of oxen and sacrificed them, and cooked their meat with the implements of the oxen, and gave it to the people and they ate. Then he got up and followed Elijah and served him.



# ELIJAH

After experiencing an unthinkable miracle and victory, became gripped with fear, ran and hid. God humbled him and showed him, gently, the whole picture and had him complete the mission.