

Crashing Through Quitting Points! Evil Intimidations 1 Kings 19:1-18

Misguided Illusions – 04-19

- Conquerors – Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego
- Quitters – Judas

Evil Intimidations – 04-26

- Conquerors – Elijah
- Quitters – Demas (2 Timothy 4:9)

Wearied Ineffectiveness

- Conquerors – Jeremiah
- Quitters

Exhausting Irritations

- Conquerors – Martha
- Quitters

Feared Incompetency

- Conquerors – Joshua
- Quitters – King Saul

Dangerous Implications

- Conquerors – Esther
- Quitters

Recurring Inconsistency

- Conquerors – Peter
- Quitters

Frustrated Impatience

- Conquerors – Caleb
- Quitters – The Israelites

➤ ***Quitting points are those roadblocks in life that make us want to give up***

Quitting Points are a Universal reality

➤ ***Quitting Points are a universal reality - Everyone HAS them and everyone HITS them***

What separates the Conquerors from the Quitters?

Over the next several weeks we are going to look at some common ROADBLOCKS that become Quitting Points...

We are not going to be looking at how we can avoid quitting points, but rather how we can see them for what they are and crash through them!

➤ ***Quitting points will either DEFINE us or REFINE us...***

Quitting points need not BIND us, but can REMIND us of God's faithfulness through every trial

Today we are going to begin with the first QUITTING POINT that I'm calling "Evil Intimidations"

Today we are going to meet one of the greatest spiritual giants who has ever lived...

But we are meeting him at his QUITTING POINT...

1 Kings 19:4b (ESV) — ... And he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.”

Today we are going to see Elijah’s path to his quitting point...

It was the path of Evil Intimidation...

**James 5:17a (ESV)
Elijah was a man with a nature like ours ...**

1. The REALITY of Evil Intimidations

- **EXPECT them – We live in a fallen world!**

**1 Kings 19:1–2 (ESV)
Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.”**

**2 Timothy 3:12–13 (ESV)
Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.**

**John 15:20a (ESV)
Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.**

John 16:33 (ESV)

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

1. The REALITY of Evil Intimidations

- **EXPECT them – We live in a fallen world!**

2. The REACH of Evil Intimidations

- **RESPECT them – We are all susceptible to them!**

1 Kings 19:3–4 (ESV) — Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.”

- **Physical Exhaustion**

1 Kings 19:5a (ESV) — And he lay down and slept under a broom tree...

- **Emotional Isolation**

1 Kings 19:3–5a (ESV) — Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree ...

➤ **Spiritual Devastation**

1 Kings 19:4 (ESV) — But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers."

→ **Pic – Downward Spiral**



When we find someone in these DOWNWARD SPIRALS we must try to help them ... but WITH CAUTION!

Galatians 6:1 (ESV) — Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

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3. The RESPONSE to Evil Intimidations

- **DEFLECT them – We must embrace the Lord's help!**

1 Kings 19:5–8 (ESV) — 5 And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." 6 And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. 7 And the angel of the Lord came again a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you." 8 And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God.

The Lord begins by strengthening Elijah physically!

→ **Pic – Upward Spiral 1**



REJUVINATION

Adequate rest...

Proverbs 3:24 (ESV) — If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Healthy diet...

Moderate exercise...

1 Timothy 4:8 (NLT) — “Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.”

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3. The RESPONSE to Evil Intimidations

- **DEFLECT them – We must reach out for spiritual guidance!**

4. The REJECTION of Evil Intimidations

- **REJECT them – The Lord has defeated them!**

→ **Pic – Upward Spiral 2**

RECONNECTION



1 Kings 19:11–14 (ESV) — And he said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. 13 And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” 14 He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.”

Twice in this story the Lord asks Elijah the EXACT same question and Elijah gives the EXACT same answer...

1 Kings 19:9b (ESV) — ... “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

The fact that the EXACT same question and response is recorded twice tells us that the Lord was wanting to make Elijah fully aware of his emotional pain...

→ Pic – Upward Spiral 3

RESTORATION



1 Kings 19:15–18 (ESV) — 15 And the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. 16 And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. 17 And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the

sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. 18 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 19:15 (ESV) — ... “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus” ...

Four things to know...

- **God is in charge!**

1 Kings 19:15b (ESV) — ... And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria.

- **Evil does not win!**

1 Kings 19:16a (ESV) — And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel ...

This doesn’t happen for another 15 years!

- **God is advancing His plan not yours!**

1 Kings 19:16b (ESV) — ... and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place.

- **You are not the only one standing and struggling!**

1 Kings 19:18 (ESV) — 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.”

Jeremiah 33:3 (ESV)

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

➤ _____ ***them – The Lord has defeated them!***

***Crashing Through Quitting Points!
Evil Intimidations
1 Kings 19:1-18***

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