

Divine Counsel for God's Servant

- 1) And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.
- 2) 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."
- 3) 3 And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

1. Rain! Discouragement from great victories.

1 Kings 18

- 41) Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain."
- 42) So Ahab went up to eat and drink. 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." So he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again."

1. Rain! Discouragement from great victories.

1 Kings 18

- 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.' "
- 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.
- 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.

2. Misplaced expectations

1 Kings 18

44) 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.

2. Misplaced expectations

- 1) And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.
- 2) Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."
- And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

3. The roar of intimidation

- 1) And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.
- Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, <u>"So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."</u>
- And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

1 Peter 5:8-9

- 8) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
- 9) Whom resist stedfast in the faith...

4. The Downward spiral

- 1) And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.
- 2) Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."
- And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and <u>left his servant</u> there.

4. The Downward spiral

1 Kings 19:4-5

4) But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

5. God's compassionate counsel begins

- 5) And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, <u>Arise and eat</u>.
- Then he looked, and there by his head was a <u>cake baked</u> on coals, and <u>a</u> <u>jar of water</u>. So he ate and drank, and lay down again.
- 7) And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you."
- 8) So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

