

The Book of First KINGS

Chapter 19

“The Life of Elijah” (Part 3)

Chapter 19 - “Jezebel vs. Elijah”

I) Elijah’s DESPAIR! (v1-10)

> Who is Jezebel? (Notes)

(New Testament insight: Revelation 2:18-29- “Jezebel in the church of Thyatira”)

(v3-7) ELIJAH’S DESPAIR – WHAT NOT TO DO:

(v3a) #1 – Reacting in FEAR, not FAITH.

(v3b) #2 – RUNNING (All believers must turn to Christ in crisis. (“Standfast” Eph. 6:10-20))

(v4) #3 – This is a QUITTER’S PRAYER – “*Now LORD take my life!*” There’s a quitter in all of us, we must overcome, we must PRAY ACCORDING TO THE PROMISES OF GOD’S WORD. (i.e. - 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 - *Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. Philippians 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 1:19-21 - For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Pray in faith! - Philippians 4:6-7 - Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

(v5) #4 – Elijah gets himself to a point of EXHAUSTION and a lack of NUTRITION. We do this through self-pity and self-judgment. When you’re in a desperate situation you must take care of spirit, soul and body. Seek the LORD for spiritual help; seek believers for soul supply, meaning encouragement, prayer and counsel; for the body we need proper rest and a balanced diet.

> GOD’S INTERVENTION:

(v6-10) God sends an angel and TOUCHES Elijah, God PROVIDES food and water, God ENCOURAGES TWICE, God STRENGTHENS, God SPEAKS (“*the word of the LORD came to him*”). Let’s trust God to touch us, provide for us, encourage and strengthen us; O’ LORD speak that we might hear your voice!

II) Elijah’s DELIVERANCE! (v11-18)

(v11-12) Was God in the wind, the earthquake or the fire? No, He’s in the “*still small voice*” of His Word. Be wise concerning the: (1) “Wind”- Ephesians 4:11-16 - *And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. (2) “Earthquake” - 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 - *Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to**

Him, we ask you, not to be soon **shaken** in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (3) **“Fire” – 1 Peter 1:7-10** - that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of your souls.

(v13) Notice that God asked Elijah a second time **“What are you doing here?”** (v8, 14) Has God ever asked you that question, if so, good! He loves you, He’s speaking to you, He wants to guide you, empower you and use you for His glory!

(v14-18) God gives Elijah his marching orders and He lets Elijah know that he is not alone, there’s an army of 7,000!

III) Elijah’s DISCIPLESHIP! (v19-20)

(v19) Elisha means **“God is salvation.”** Here Elisha is challenged to answer the **“CALL”** to **DISCIPLESHIP**, the call to being a **“SERVANT.”**

> **Choosing Disciples-** Acts 6:1-7 – Who are of **“good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit, and wisdom.”**

“Eight Keys to Strong Discipleship”- by Porter Barrington

- 1- Study for a biblical foundation on which to **grow**.
- 2- Study for spiritual **strength** and **power** for this life in a world under the curse of sin.
- 3- Study that you may grow in Bible **knowledge**.
- 4- Study that you may be a **success** to the glory of God.
- 5- Study and give the Holy Spirit the opportunity to **motivate** you to greater things for the Lord.
- 6- Study that you may **know** God’s perfect will for your life.
- 7- Study that you may be an effective **soul** winner.
- 8- Study so that you may **“sanctify (set apart) the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear”** (1Peter 3:15).