

NAVIGATING UNCERTAIN TIMES





Philippians 4:4–7 (NLT) — “Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! **5** Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. **6 Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.** **7** Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”

This is a book about how much GOD is in control,
and how much WE are not.



A dramatic landscape featuring a large, snow-capped mountain peak in the background, partially obscured by dark, heavy clouds. The foreground consists of a lush green valley with scattered trees and shrubs. The overall mood is somber and powerful, suggesting a journey through challenging circumstances.

It's about learning to navigate through valleys with confidence GOD is in control...

So...
What do
we do?





**NAVIGATING
UNCERTAIN
TIMES**

PRAY...

Prayer isn't about changing
our **CIRCUMSTANCES**... it's
about changing **US**





**NAVIGATING
UNCERTAIN
TIMES**

REMEMBER...



Remember there are things:

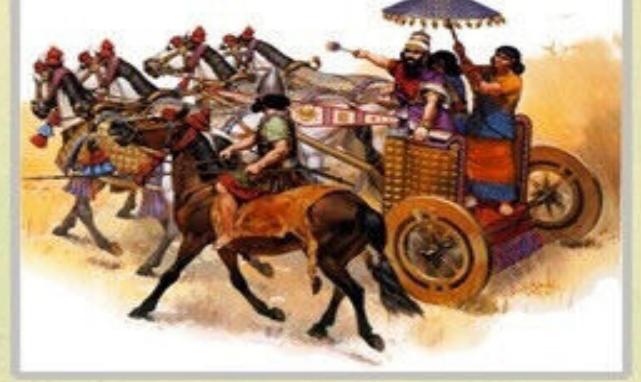
- We have **forgotten**
- We **don't know**
- We **would love to forget**
- We **can't afford to forget**

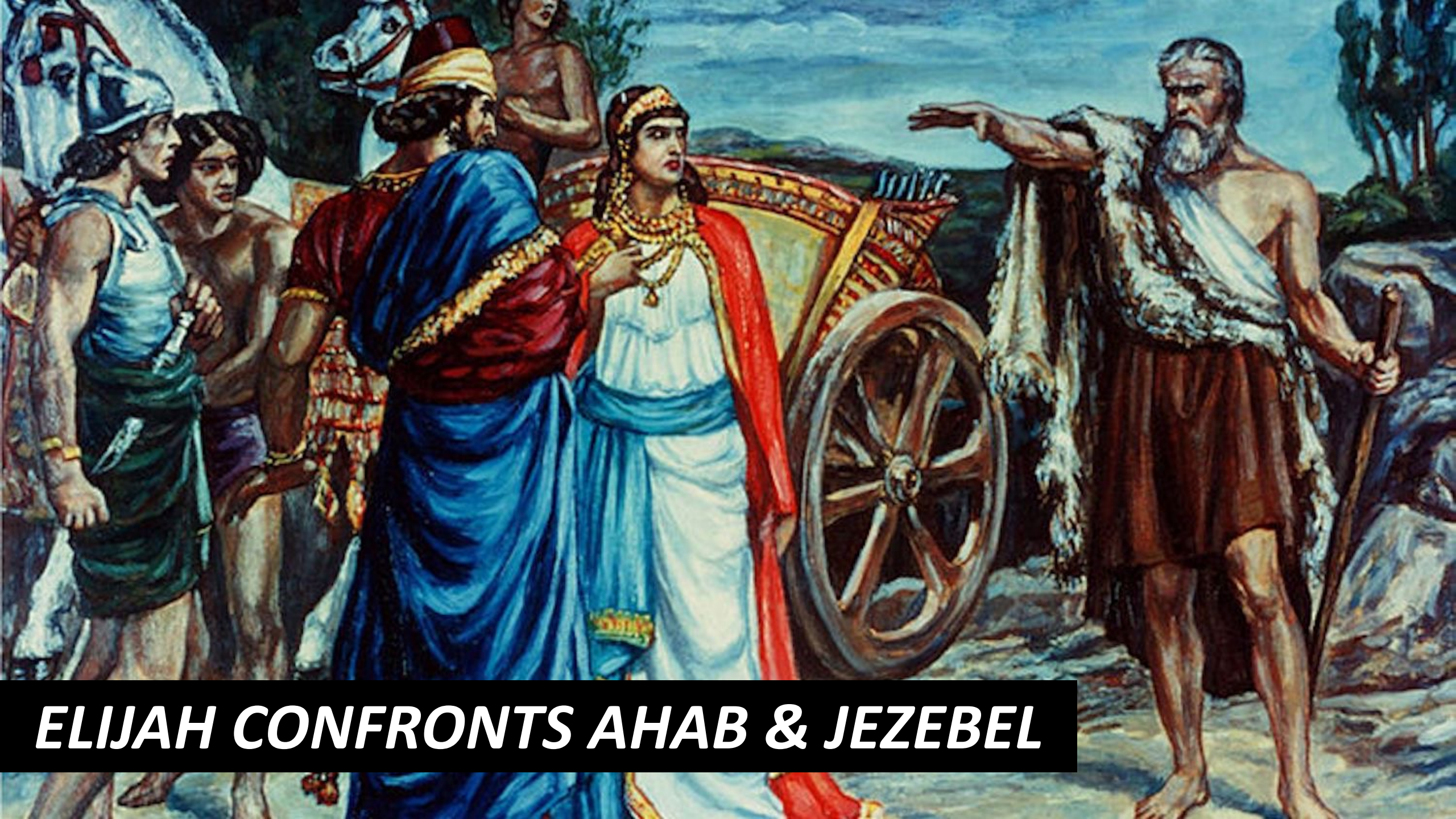
When this light comes on...



REMEMBER

THE DIVIDED KINGDOM





ELIJAH CONFRONTS AHAB & JEZEBEL

1 Kings 17:1 (NLT) — “Now Elijah, who was from Tishbe in Gilead, told King Ahab, ‘As surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives—the God I serve—there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!’”

1 Kings 17:5–6 (NLT) — “So Elijah did as the LORD told him and camped beside Kerith Brook, east of the Jordan. **6** The ravens brought him bread and meat each morning and evening, and he drank from the brook.”



Don't Underestimate:

- God's **ABILITY TO PROVIDE** in any situation



Don't Underestimate:

- God's **ABILITY TO PROVIDE** in any situation
- The critical **IMPORTANCE OF OBEDIENCE**

1 Kings 17:7–9 (NLT) — “But after a while the brook dried up, for there was no rainfall anywhere in the land. **8** Then the LORD said to Elijah, **9** ‘Go and live in the village of Zarephath, near the city of Sidon. I have instructed a widow there to feed you.’”

“So he went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he asked her, ‘Would you please bring me a little water in a cup?’ **11** As she was going to get it, he called to her, ‘Bring me a bite of bread, too.’ **12** But she said, ‘I swear by the LORD your God that I don’t have a single piece of bread in the house. And I have only a handful of flour left in the jar and a little cooking oil in the bottom of the jug. I was just gathering a few sticks to cook this

1 Kings 17:10-16 (NLT)

last meal, and then my son and I will die.’ **13** But Elijah said to her, ‘Don’t be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you’ve said, **but make a little bread for me first.** Then use what’s left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son. **14** For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the LORD sends rain and the crops grow again!’ **15 So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her family continued to eat for**

1 Kings 17:10-16 (NLT)

many days. 16 There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the LORD had promised through Elijah.”

1 Kings 17:10-16 (NLT)



The Facts of the Story:

- Widow was poor
- What she has isn't enough to meet basic needs for her/son
- She was going to make one last meal for her and her son
- "We are going to die."

**It took faith for Elijah to
instruct her...**

**And it took faith for her
to obey**

RICH

POOR



AVOID THE PITFALLS OF THE RICH AND THE POOR

Matthew 6:24 (NLT) — “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”

Matthew 6:24 (NKJV) — “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. You cannot serve God and mammon.”



ELIJAH CONFRONTS AHAB AGAIN

“So Obadiah went to tell Ahab that Elijah had come, and Ahab went out to meet Elijah. **17** When Ahab saw him, he exclaimed, ‘So, is it really you, you troublemaker of Israel?’ **18** ‘I have made no trouble for Israel,’ Elijah replied. ‘You and your family are the troublemakers, for you have refused to obey the commands of the LORD and have worshiped the images of Baal instead. **19** Now summon all Israel to join me at Mount Carmel, along with the 450 prophets of Baal

1 Kings 18:16-21 (NLT)

and the 400 prophets of Asherah who are supported by Jezebel.' **20** So Ahab summoned all the people of Israel and the prophets to Mount Carmel. **21** Then Elijah stood in front of them and said, **'How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!'** But the people were completely silent."

1 Kings 18:16-21 (NLT)



ELIJAH & THE PROPHETS OF BAAL

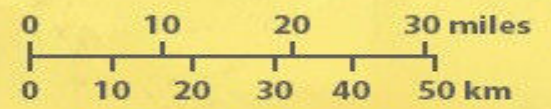
ELIJAH RUNS TO BEERSHEBA



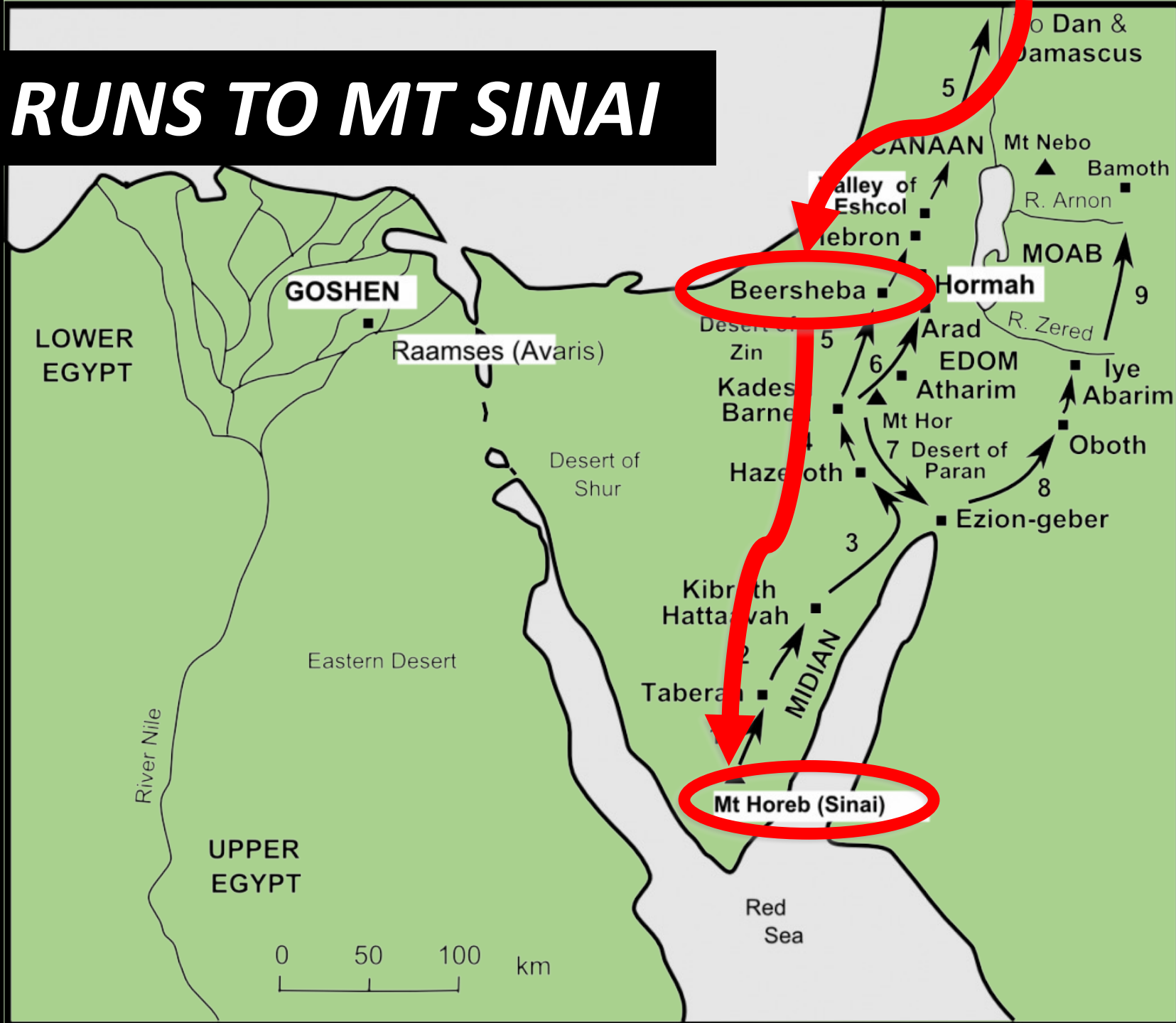
Jezreel

Samaria

Beersheba



ELIJAH RUNS TO MT SINAI



1 Kings 19:9 (NLT) — “There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the LORD said to him, **'What are you doing here, Elijah?'**”

1 Kings 19:10 (NLT) — “Elijah replied, ‘I have zealously served the LORD God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. **I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too.**’”

“As I see it...”



“Go out and stand before me on the mountain,” the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. **12** And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper. **13** When

1 Kings 19:11-13 (NLT)

Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And a voice said, **‘What are you doing here, Elijah?’**”

1 Kings 19:11-13 (NLT)

***“What are you
doing here?”***



When we lose sight of
God's **past faithfulness**,
we don't factor Him into the
future

When the Future Looks Uncertain

remember

A hand is shown holding a string of paper letters that spell out the word "remember". The letters are cut out from a piece of paper and are strung together with a white thread. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color with a subtle, abstract pattern of overlapping shapes.

“For Jeduthun, the choir director: A psalm of Asaph. **1** I cry out to God; yes, I shout. Oh, that God would listen to me! **2** When I was in deep trouble, I searched for the Lord. All night long I prayed, with hands lifted toward heaven, but my soul was not comforted. **3** I think of God, and I moan, overwhelmed with longing for his help. Interlude **4** You don’t let me sleep. I am too distressed even to pray! **5 I think of the good old days, long since ended, 6 when my nights were filled with**

Psalm 77:1-20 (NLT)

joyful songs. I search my soul and ponder the difference now. **7** Has the Lord rejected me forever? Will he never again be kind to me? **8** Is his unfailing love gone forever? Have his promises permanently failed? **9** Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he slammed the door on his compassion? Interlude **10** And I said, "This is my fate; the Most High has turned his hand against me." **11 But then I recall all you have done, O LORD; I remember** your wonderful deeds of

Psalm 77:1-20 (NLT)

long ago. **12** They are constantly in my thoughts. I cannot stop thinking about your mighty works. **13** O God, your ways are holy. Is there any god as mighty as you? **14** You are the God of great wonders! You demonstrate your awesome power among the nations. **15** **By your strong arm, you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.** Interlude **16** When the Red Sea saw you, O God, its waters looked and trembled! The sea quaked to its very depths. **17**

Psalm 77:1-20 (NLT)

The clouds poured down rain; the thunder rumbled in the sky. Your arrows of lightning flashed. **18** Your thunder roared from the whirlwind; the lightning lit up the world! The earth trembled and shook. **19** Your road led through the sea, your pathway through the mighty waters— a pathway no one knew was there! **20** You led your people along that road like a flock of sheep, with Moses and Aaron as their shepherds.”

Psalm 77:1-20 (NLT)

Crying Out To God



Psalm 77:10–13 (NLT) — “And I said, ‘This is my fate; the Most High has turned his hand against me.’ **11** But **then I recall** all you have done, O LORD; **I remember** your wonderful deeds of long ago. **12 They are constantly in my thoughts.** I cannot stop thinking about your mighty works. **13** O God, your ways are holy. Is there any god as mighty as you?”



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TIMES**

REMEMBER...



Remember:

- What God has done for you for you in the past



Remember:

- What God has done for you for you in the past
- **What God has done that is recorded in the Bible**



Remember:

- What God has done for you for you in the past
- What God has done that is recorded in the Bible
- **He is the same God as He was back then**



Remember:

- What God has done for you for you in the past
- What God has done that is recorded in the Bible
- He is the same God as He was back then
- **Just because you don't see it, doesn't mean He isn't working**



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PRAY...

REMEMBER...