

# Elijah Part 4 - When The Fire Fades

7.19.26

**1 Kings 19:1 - 4** <sup>1</sup>Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup>So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.” <sup>3</sup>Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, <sup>4</sup>while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, LORD,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.”

Elijah isn't questioning God's power...He's questioning his own strength.

**Discouragement often distorts reality** - *it has a way of shrinking our vision until all we can see is our own pain.*

**Key Thought #1: Exhaustion often whispers lies that rested faith would never believe.**

- When we're emotionally and spiritually depleted, we're more vulnerable to believing lies.
- *Never make major life decisions when you're running on empty.*

**1 Kings 19:5-8** <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, “Get up and eat.” <sup>6</sup>He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, “Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you.” <sup>8</sup>So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

- *Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is rest.*
- If the Son of God needed rhythms of renewal, we certainly do.

**Key Thought #2 God cares for the person before He calls them back to the mission.**

Elijah travels to **Mount Horeb**, also known as **Mount Sinai**—the very mountain where God met Moses and gave Israel the Ten Commandments (Exodus 19–20).

**God's covenant faithfulness has not changed—even when His people's faithfulness has.**

**1 Kings 19:9-13** <sup>9</sup>There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>10</sup>He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup>After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

- While Elijah’s feelings are real, **his conclusions are not.**
- Elijah wasn’t alone. He only *felt* alone.

*Don’t build your theology on your emotions...Build your emotions on the unchanging truth of God’s Word.*

**Key Thought #3 Don’t mistake God’s quietness for God’s absence.**

**1 Kings 19:14-18:** <sup>14</sup>He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

<sup>15</sup>The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. <sup>17</sup>Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. <sup>18</sup>Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

- God doesn’t leave Elijah under the broom tree...**He recommissions him.**

**Key Thought #4 Your discouragement doesn’t cancel God’s calling.**

**Life Point: God meets us in our weariness, restores us with His presence, and sends us back with renewed purpose.**

*Your greatest need isn’t to escape your circumstances—it’s to encounter the presence of God.*