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What You Need to Know About ELIJAH

“Someone Who Watched God at Work”

STUDY NUMBER ONE - 1 KINGS 17:1-7

NOTES

v. 1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word."
v. 2 And the word of the Lord came to him, saying,
v. 3 "Go away from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan."
v. 4 And it shall be that you shall drink of the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to provide for you there."
v. 5 So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and lived by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.
v. 6 And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he would drink from the brook.
v. 7 And it happened after a while, that the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Kings 17:1-7 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What message from the Lord is given by Elijah in verse 1?

3. What command is given by the Lord to Elijah in verse 3?

4. What provision has the Lord made for Elijah in verse 4?

5. What was Elijah's response to this command from the Lord in verse 5?

6. Read Philippians 4:19 and compare it with verse 6.

7. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8 and also compare it with verse 6.

8. Why do you suppose the brook dried up, according to verse 7?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord is alive, aware, and active in our lives.

LESSON #2: We are going to stand before Him and He will render a verdict.

LESSON #3: The Lord will provide for you in the center of His will.

LESSON #4: The Lord allows tests to develop character.

LESSON #5: We ought to be those who are looking for and looking like our Lord.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWO - 1 KINGS 17:8-24

NOTES

v. 8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

v. 9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you."

v.10 So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, "Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink."

v.11 And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand."

v.12 But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die."

v.13 Then Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go, do as you have said, but make me a little bread cake from it first, and bring it out to me, and afterward you may make one for yourself and for your son.

v.14 For thus says the Lord God of Israel, 'The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted, nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth.'"

v.15 So she went and did according to the word of Elijah, and she and he and her household ate for many days.

v.16 The bowl of flour was not exhausted nor did the jar of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke through Elijah.

v.17 Now it came about after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick; and his sickness was so severe, that there was no breath left in him.

v.18 So she said to Elijah, "What do I have to do with you, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my iniquity to remembrance, and to put my son to death!"

v.19 And he said to her, "Give me your son." Then he took him from her bosom and carried him up to the upper room where he was living, and laid him on his own bed.

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v.20 And he called to the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, hast Thou also brought calamity to the widow with whom I am staying, by causing her son to die?"

v.21 Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and called to the Lord, and said, "O Lord my God, I pray Thee, let this child's life return to him."

v.22 And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah, and the life of the child returned to him and he revived.

v.23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down from the upper room into the house and gave him to his mother; and Elijah said, "See, your son is alive."

v.24 Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Kings 17:8-24 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What did the Lord command Elijah to do in verse 9 and how was he to be sustained?

3. What request did Elijah make of the widow in verses 10 & 11?

4. What was the response of the widow in verse 12?

5. What promise from the Lord is given by the prophet in verse 14?

6. What happened in verses 15 & 16?

7. What tragedy took place in verses 17 & 18?

8. How did Elijah handle this emergency in verses 19-23, and what was the widow's ultimate response, according to verse 24?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord is always on time with His direction and His provision.

LESSON #2: Our trust in God and our obedience to His Word puts us in a place of blessing.

LESSON #3: Being in the center of His will does not exempt you from trauma and trial.

LESSON #4: Many times through circumstances, God is preparing us for something ahead.

LESSON #5: Perhaps your circumstances are to bring you to Christ.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THREE - 1 KINGS 18:1-18**NOTES**

v. 1 Now it came about after many days, that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth."

v. 2 So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria.

v. 3 And Ahab called Obadiah who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly;

v. 4 for it came about, when Jezebel destroyed the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water.)

v. 5 Then Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys; perhaps we will find grass and keep the horses and mules alive, and not have to kill some of the cattle.

v. 6 So they divided the land between them to survey it; Ahab went one way by himself and Obadiah went another way by himself.

v. 7 Now as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him, and he recognized him and fell on his face and said, "Is this you, Elijah my master?"

v. 8 And he said to him, "It is I. Go, say to your master, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'"

v. 9 And he said, "What sin have I committed, that you are giving your servant into the hand of Ahab, to put me to death?

v.10 As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent to search for you; and when they said, 'He is not here', he made the kingdom or nation swear that they could not find you.

v.11 And now you are saying, 'Go, say to your master, "Behold, Elijah is here.'"

v.12 And it will come about when I leave you that the Spirit of the Lord will carry you where I do not know; so when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant have feared the Lord from my youth.

v.13 Has it not been told to my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, that I hid a hundred prophets of the Lord by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water?

v.14 And now you are saying, 'Go, say to your master, "Behold, Elijah is here"; he will then kill me.'

v.15 And Elijah said, "As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today."

v.16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

v.17 And it came about, when Ahab saw Elijah that Ahab said to him, "Is this you, you troubler of Israel?"

v.18 And he said, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, because you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and you have followed the Baals.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Kings 18:1-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What message comes to Elijah from the Lord in verse 1?

3. Describe the physical conditions, according to verse 2.

4. Who was Obadiah, and what good thing did he do, according to verses 3 & 4?

5. What was Obadiah's mission when he met Elijah?

6. What does Elijah ask Obadiah to do, according to verse 8?

7. What response does Obadiah give to this request?

8. What are Ahab's first words to Elijah when they meet, and how does Elijah defend himself, according to verses 17 & 18?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Are you an Ahab, resisting all that God is trying to do in your life to bring you to a place of blessing and prosperity?

LESSON #2: Are you an Obadiah, a silent servant doing what you can, where you are to bring glory to his name because you have feared the Lord from your youth.

LESSON #3: Are you an Elijah, a man who is willing to be obedient and directed by God, provided for by his hand to the full accomplishment of His purpose in your life.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FOUR - 1 KINGS 18:19-46

NOTES

v.19 Now then send and gather to me all Israel at Mount Carmel, together with 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of the Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

v.20 So Ahab sent a message among all the sons of Israel, and brought the prophets together at Mount Carmel.

v.21 And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people did not answer him a word.

v.22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the Lord, but Baal's prophets are 450 men.

v.23 Now let them give us two oxen; and let them choose one ox for themselves and cut it up, and place it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other ox, and lay it on the wood, and I will not put a fire under it.

v.24 Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord, and the God who answers by fire, He is God." And all the people answered and said, "That is a good idea."

v.25 So Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one ox for yourselves and prepare it first for you are many, and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it."

v.26 Then they took the ox which was given them and they prepared it and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon saying, "O Baal, answer us." But there was no voice and no one answered. And they leaped about the altar which they made.

v.27 And it came about at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Call out with a loud voice, for he is a god; either he is occupied or gone aside, or is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and needs to be awakened."

v.28 So they cried with a loud voice and cut themselves according to their custom with swords and lances until the blood gushed out on them.

v.29 And it came about when midday was past, that they raved until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice; but there was no voice, no one answered, and no one paid attention.

v.30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord which had been torn down.

v.31 And Elijah took twelve stones according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name."

v.32 So with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he made a trench around the altar, large enough to hold two measures of seed.

v.33 Then he arranged the wood and cut the ox in pieces and laid it on the wood. And he said, "Fill four pitchers with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood."

v.34 And he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time. And he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time.

v.35 And the water flowed around the altar, and he also filled the trench with water.

v.36 Then it came about at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that Thou art God in Israel, and that I am Thy servant, and that I have done all these things at Thy word.

v.37 Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that Thou, O Lord, art God, and that Thou hast turned their heart back again."

v.38 Then fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

v.39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He is God; the Lord, He is God."

v.40 Then Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; do not let one of the escape." So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

v.41 Now Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of the roar of a heavy shower."

v.42 So Ahab went up to eat and drink. But Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he crouched down on the earth, and put his face between his knees.

v.43 And he said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go back" seven times.

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v.44 And it came about at the seventh time, that he said, "Behold, a small cloud as small as a man's hand is coming up from the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, so that the heavy shower does not stop you.'"

v.45 So it came about in a little while, that the sky grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy shower. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel.

v.46 Then the hand of the Lord was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and outran Ahab to Jezreel.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Kings 18:19-46 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does Elijah command Ahab to do in verse 19?

3. What question does Elijah ask of the people in verse 21?

4. What proposition is presented by Elijah in verses 23 & 24?

5. What kind of a response did the people get from their god Baal, according to verse 29?

6. Outline the prayer requests of Elijah in verses 36 & 37.

7. What response do we get from the people in verse 39 when the fire of the Lord fell?

8. Describe in your own words Elijah's prayer life and the response to his prayer in verses 42-46.

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Who is your God? How long are you going to hop between two opinions?

LESSON #2: The Lord is always faithful to fulfill His promises.

LESSON #3: There are three things about Elijah's prayer life. His prayers are: (1) definite; (2) earnest; and (3) based on the promises of God.

LESSON #4: Cleansing must precede God's blessing. (See Psalm 139:23-24)

LESSON #5: When are you going to turn loose so God can triumph?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FIVE - 1 KINGS 19:1-21**NOTES**

v. 1 Now Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

v. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me I and even more, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

v. 3 And he was afraid and arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

v. 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 my life, for I am not better than my fathers."

v. 5 And he lay down and slept under a juniper tree; and behold, there was an angel touching him, and he said to him, "Arise, eat."

v. 6 Then he looked and behold, there was at his head a bread cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank and lay down again.

v. 7 And the angel of the Lord came again a second time and touched him and said, "Arise, eat, because the journey is too great for you."

v. 8 So he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of God.

v. 9 Then he came there to a cave, and lodged there; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

v.10 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the sons of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant, torn down Thine altars and killed Thy prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

v.11 So He said, "Go forth, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord was passing by! And a great and strong wind was rending the mountains and breaking 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.

v.12 And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of a gentle blowing.

v.13 And it came about when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, a voice came to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

v.14 Then he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the sons of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant, torn down Thine altars and killed Thy prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

v.15 And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus, and when you have arrived, you shall anoint Hazael king over Syria;

v.16 and Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

v.17 And it shall come about, the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall put to death.

v.18 Yet I will leave 7000 in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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v.19 So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, while he was plowing with twelve pairs of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth. And Elijah passed over to him and threw his mantle on him.

v.20 And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?"

v.21 So he returned from following him, and took the pair of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the implements of the oxen, and gave it to the people and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah and ministered to him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Kings 19:1-21 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How did Elijah respond to the threat from Jezebel against his life, according to verse 3?

3. What is Elijah's prayer request in verse 4?

4. How did the Lord minister to Elijah's needs in the wilderness, according to verses 5-7?

5. What question does the Lord ask of Elijah in verse 9?

6. What is Elijah's defense in verse 10?

7. How does the Lord reveal Himself to Elijah in verse 13?

8. What does the Lord command Elijah to do in verses 15 & 16?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: We can learn that it's always wrong to make a move on the basis of an emotional threat or circumstances which are contrary to God's will.

LESSON #2: Getting out of God's will by emotions and circumstances is a very painful experience.

LESSON #3: The consequences of missing God's will affect you physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

LESSON #4: God's attitude toward us is not affected by our failure.

LESSON #5: It is easy to miss God's will because we can magnify difficulties and that paralyzes our spiritual activity.

LESSON #6: God's attitude toward His servant is the same when you're out of His will as when you're in His will. He loves you just the same.

LESSON #7: We may be forsaken by man, but we are never forgotten by God.

LESSON #8: When you think you have missed God's will, get alone with Him and hear afresh His voice.

LESSON #9: The Lord will not speak in the dramatic, but in a still, small voice. (See Isaiah 30:21)

LESSON #10: When new assignments come, be obedient.

LESSON #11: It's a privilege to get to be used by God. You are not indispensable and you're not alone.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SIX - 1 KINGS 21:1-25

NOTES

v. 1 Now it came about after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard which was in Jezreel beside the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

v. 2 And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden because it is close beside my house, and I will give you a better vineyard than it in its place; if you like, I will give you the price of it in money."

v. 3 But Naboth said to Ahab, "The Lord forbid me that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers."

v. 4 So Ahab came into his house sullen and vexed because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him; for he said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." And he lay down on his bed and turned away his face and ate no food.

v. 5 But Jezebel his wife came to him and said to him, "How is it that your spirit is so sullen that you are not eating food?"

v. 6 So he said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if it pleases you, I will give you a vineyard in its place.' But he said, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'"

v. 7 And Jezebel his wife said to him, "Do you now reign over Israel? Arise, eat bread, and let your heart be joyful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

v. 8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal, and sent letters to the elders and to the nobles who were living with Naboth in his city.

v. 9 Now she wrote in the letters, saying, "Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the people;

v.10 and seat two worthless men before him, and let them testify against him, saying, 'You cursed God and the king.' Then take him out and stone him to death."

v.11 So the men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in his city, did as Jezebel had sent word to them, just as it was written in the letters which she had sent them.

v.12 They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the people.

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v.13 Then the two worthless men came in and sat before him; and the worthless men testified against him, even against Naboth, before the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death with stones.

v.14 Then they sent word to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned, and is dead."

v.15 And it came about when Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, "Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth, the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead."

v.16 And it came about when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab arose to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

v.17 Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

v.18 "Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria; behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth where he has gone down to take possession of it.

v.19 And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the Lord, "Have you murdered, and also taken possession?"' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the Lord, "In the place where the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth the dogs shall lick up your blood, even yours.'"

v.20 And Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" And he answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the Lord.

v.21 Behold, I will bring evil upon you, and will utterly sweep you away, and will cut off from Ahab every male, both bond and free in Israel;

v.22 and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and because you have made Israel sin.

v.23 And of Jezebel also has the Lord spoken, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel in the district of Jezreel.'

v.24 The one belonging to Ahab, who dies in the city, the dogs shall eat, and the one who dies in the field the birds of heaven shall eat."

v.25 Surely there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do evil in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife incited him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 Kings 21:1-25 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Why does Naboth refuse to give the vineyard to Ahab, according to verse 3?

3. How does Ahab respond to this denial from Naboth, according to verse 4?

4. Describe Jezebel's plan to acquire the vineyard for Ahab.

5. What does the Lord command Elijah to do in verses 18 & 19?

6. What has Ahab done to require Elijah to be confronting him at this time, according to verse 20?

7. What message of judgment is given against Ahab and Jezebel by the prophet in verses 21-24?

8. What part did Jezebel play in this evil record, according to verse 25?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lessons have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God is long-suffering and patient with us in the hopes that He might get a repentant response.

LESSON #2: Happiness consists not in having but in being. Happiness does not consist in what you have but in what you are.

LESSON #3: The Lord is aware of sin and injustice, and His judgment is swift when the time of grace has run out.

LESSON #4: Ahab had prolonged periods of time to respond, but he never did.

LESSON #5: The power of personal relationships, for good and for evil.

LESSON #6: Be sure your sins will find you out.

LESSON #7: The Lord didn't give up on Elijah even though he missed God's will.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SEVEN - 2 KINGS 1:3-17**NOTES**

v. 3 But the angel of the Lord said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria and say to them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?'

v. 4 Now therefore thus says the Lord, 'You shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but you shall surely die.'" Then Elijah departed.

v. 5 When the messengers returned to him he said to them, "Why have you returned?"

v. 6 And they said to him, "A man came up to meet us and said to us, 'Go, return to the king who sent you and say to him, "Thus says the Lord, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are sending to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.'"

v. 7 And he said to them, "What kind of man was he who came up to meet you and spoke these words to you?"

v. 8 And they answered him, "He was a hairy man with a leather girdle bound about his loins." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

v. 9 Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him, and behold, he was sitting on the top of the hill. And he said to him, "O man of God, the king says, 'Come down.'"

v.10 And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty."

Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

v.11 So he again sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said to him, "O man of God, thus says the king, 'Come down quickly.'"

v.12 And Elijah answered and said to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty. Then the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

v.13 So he again sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. When the third captain of fifty went up, he came and bowed down on his knees before Elijah, and begged him and said to him, "O man of God, please let my life and the lives of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight.

v.14 Behold fire came down from heaven, and consumed the first two captains of fifty with their fifties; but now let my life be precious in your sight."

v.15 And the angel of the Lord said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So he arose and went down with him to the king.

v.16 Then he said to him, "Thus says the Lord, 'Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron--is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word?--therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.'

v.17 So he died according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram became king in his place in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, because he had no son.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Kings 1:3-17 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does the angel of the Lord command Elijah to do in verse 3?

3. What message from the Lord does Elijah give to the messengers of Ahaziah?

4. How is Elijah described by the messengers in verse 8?

5. What is the purpose for fire coming down out of heaven in verses 9-12?

6. What is the request of the third captain in verses 13 and 14?

7. What message does the angel of the Lord give to Elijah in verse 15?

8. What message does Elijah give to the king in verse 16?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lessons have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: You cannot get away from the Lord.

LESSON #2: Don't follow a substitute god.

LESSON #3: The certainty of God's judgment is underscored in this passage.

LESSON #4: There is mercy for those who seek it.

LESSON #5: You are fighting a losing battle if you are fighting against the Lord.

LESSON #6: Elijah learned from past failures.

LESSON #7: The power of a mother's influence: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER EIGHT - 2 KINGS 2:1-11**NOTES**

v. 1 And it came about when the Lord was about to take up Elijah by a whirlwind to heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

v. 2 And Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here please, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

v. 3 Then the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; be still."

v. 4 And Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho.

v. 5 And the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from over you today?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be still."

v. 6 Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." And he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on.

v. 7 Now fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood opposite them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan.

v. 8 And Elijah took his mantle and folded it together and struck the waters, and they were divided here and there, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

v. 9 Now it came about when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."

v.10 And he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for your but if not, it shall not be so."

v.11 Then it came about as they were going along and talking, that behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Kings 2:1-11 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Who has the Lord prepared to take the place of Elijah?

3. What is Elisha's response to Elijah when he says to stay in Gilgal in verse 2?

4. What message do the sons of the prophets have for Elisha in verse 3?

5. Where does Elijah want to go next, according to verse 4?

6. What message do the prophets in Jericho have for Elisha, according to verse 5?

7. What request does Elisha make of Elijah before they depart, according to verse 9?

8. How was Elijah taken home to glory, according to verse 11?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lessons have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: We learn that our lives are in His hands. When it is time for us to depart, this is the time chosen by Him and not by us.

LESSON #2: Death for the believer is a triumphal entry into his heavenly inheritance.

LESSON #3: This passage is a picture of the rapture of the church.

LESSON #4: The Lord's way of doing things is better than our way.

LESSON #5: An effective ministry reproduces itself in the lives of others.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
