

2 Kings 2:14

Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "WHERE IS THE LORD GOD OF ELIJAH?"

Things aren't what they seem.



1 Kings 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.



peace and prosperity

Omri-land.

1 Kings 16:25 But Omri wrought evil in the eyes of the LORD, and did worse than all that were before him. 1 Kings 16:25 But Omri wrought evil in the eyes of the LORD, and did worse than all that were before him.

false peace and prosperity

1 Kings 16:30 And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him.

AHAB WAS WORSE.

1 Kings 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.



ELIJAH HIS CONFIDENCE

Where did Elijah get his confidence? Elijah's background

ELIJAH, THE TISHBITE.





Elijah appearance. (He dressed strange.)

2 Kings 1:7

And he said unto them, What kind of man was it who came up to meet you, and told you these words? 8 And they answered him, "A hairy man wearing a leather belt around his waist." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

James 5:17 Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are,

Elijah was a man like us.

His background was nothing special. He appearance was odd. What made him stand out?

What made him stand out? HIS CHARACTER

Your character is: who you are when no one else is around.

The contrast: Elijah was a great man. <u>Elijah was a reg</u>ular man.

Things aren't what they seem.

ELJAH CONFIDENCE Why was Elijah confident?

1. CONFIDENT IN GOD'S POWER

"As the LORD God of Israel liveth"

God is Living.

John 6:69

And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

1 Tim 3:15

But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Heb 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

Heb 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is <u>living</u> and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

It will cut you right down to your character.

ELIJAH'S NAME

El - Jah

God Jehovah

My God is Jehovah.

2. CONFIDENT IN GOD'S PRESENCE

"before whom I stand"

God is here now.

It was a small thing for Elijah to stand in the presence of Ahab...

because he was used to standing in the presence of God.

(C.I.Scofield)

Elijah stood BEFORE God, Elijah also stood <u>FOR</u> God.

He represented God.

He was God's Messenger. God's Ambassador.

3. CONFIDENT IN GOD'S PROMISES "there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word "

He believed that God could do what He promised.

God would stop the rain.

Deut 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

17 And then the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you.

God would bring the rain.

Deut 11:13

And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,

14 That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy grain, and thy wine, and thine oil.

1 Kings 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbitethere shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to

my word.

Elijah's Prayer.

James 5

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

17 Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Three Passages together.

1. Proclamation. (1 Kings 17)

2. Promise (Deut 11)

+

+

3. Prayer. (James 5)

How long was the drought?

James 5 17 and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

1Kings 18:1 And it came to pass after many days that the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth."

3 years 6 months? 3 or years

Elijah was a man of prayer.

James 5:16 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

His prayer was specific.

"He prayed that it might not rain"

Pray the Promises of God. God you said this, now will you do it?

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S POWER.

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S PRESENCE.

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S **PROMISES.**

We need to <u>learn</u> Confidence in God.

God needs to get rid confidence in ourselves.

Elijah in The School of God.



Elisha said "WHERE IS ELIJAH?"

Elisha said WHERE IS THE LORD GOD OF ELIJAH?"

1 Kings 17:

1 And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

2 And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

- 3 Get thee from here, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.
- 4 And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

5 So he went and did according unto the word of the Lord: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

6 And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S POWER. As the Lord God of Israel liveth,

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S PRESENCE. Before whom I stand,

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S PROMISES. There shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word..

It was a small thing for Elijah to stand in the presence of Ahab...

because he was used to standing in the presence of God.

(C.I.Scofield)



Learning to listen carefully.

You might need to be all alone to really hear.

ELIJAH HIS TRAINING

Vs 2: "And the word of the Lord came unto him,"

Point 1 - Training In listening

God is always speaking Am I listening ? Point 2 - Training in steps

Jeremiah 10:23 I know, O LORD, that a man's way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps.

One step at a time: School grades: 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade



Gods steps of training

1. Direction vs 32. Provision – vs 4
3. Reaction - vs 5
4. Examination - vs 7

1. Direction

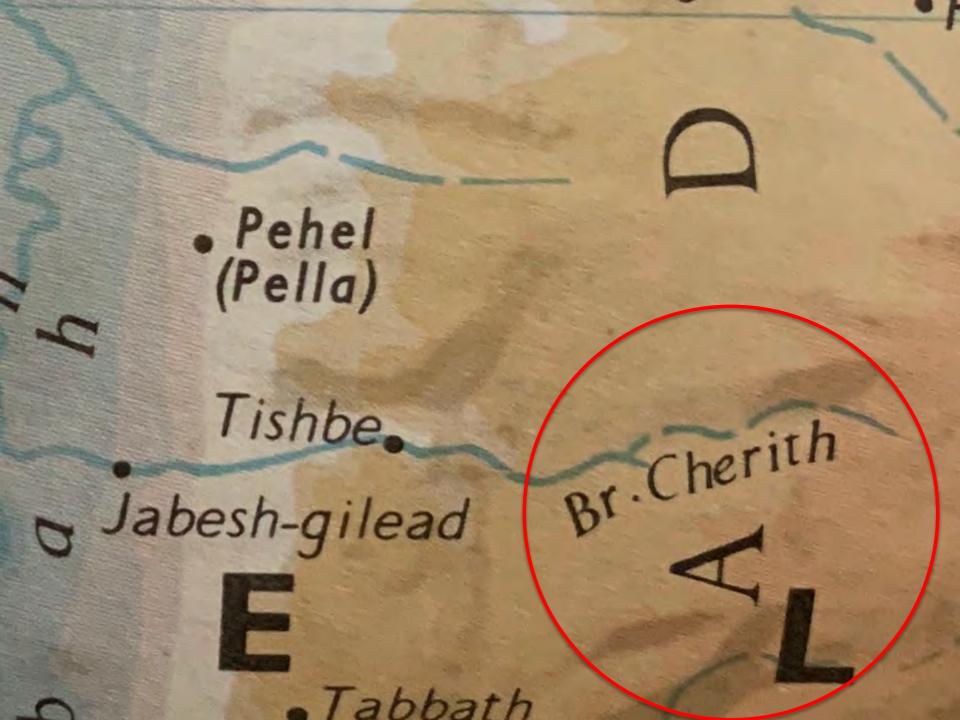
The direction had to come from God.

Vs 2 And the **word of the Lord** came unto him,

1. Direction

Vs 3 "Get thee from here and hide." Go Hide.

Where should I hide? 3 Get thee from here, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.



Why was Elijah to hide?1. For protection2. To hide God's Word – Elijah wasGod's messenger.

Famine of the word of God.

Amos 8:11, 12.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:

and they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it," What does Cherith mean?

Cherith" "a cutting,"

The Hebrew is similar to the word Divorce -Cair-eeth - Cherith -Cair-ee-thooth – Divorce

Cherith means cutting off....a "separation"

Bible names are the key to unlock a passage.

Point 3- Training in separation God's people are separate unto to Him.

Separation. Not isolation. We are in the world but not of the world.

Separation



Keep the water out of the boat.

Isolation.





Elijah needed to be alone with God

"Be Still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10)

Verses 1 Public Ministry

Private Training Verses 2-7

- Joseph was in a pit and a prison before he stood before Pharaoh.
- Moses was in the desert before he stood before Pharaoh
- David was a lonely shepherd before he stood up before Goliath.
- Paul was in in Arabia, before he stood before King Agrippa.
- Lord Jesus, was 30 years in private. before he stood before Pontius Pilate.

Direction
 Provision
 Reaction
 Examination.

1 Kings 17:4 And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

PROVISION: "And it shall be"-

God never gives direction without providing what's needed to fulfill his commands.

"All I have needed, thy hand has provided, great is thy faithfulness The Provision :

Water to drink "... that thou shalt drink of the brook"

Bread and meat to eat. ...ravens to feed thee.

Ravens - "ravenous" an intense hunger.



They were unclean birds, that was in the law:

These are the birds you are to detest and not eat because they are detestable:, any kind of **raven**, Leviticus 11:13

A raven bringing food to Elijah?

I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there. I have commanded the Arabians to feed thee there.





"I have commanded the ravens to feed thee THERE."

Blessings are found where God commands us to be

The place is a part of the provision.

Direction
 Provision
 Reaction
 Examination.

5 - So he went and did according unto the word of the Lord: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

He obeys in 3 ways

1. HE WENT

"So he went and did according to the word of the Lord,

2. HE DID.

He listened to God's Word, and He practiced God's word.

We show God how much knowledge we have God shows me how little I obey.

3. HE DWELT.

"...for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan."

GOD'S REACTION

6- And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

"My God shall supply all your need Phil. 4:19"

GOD'S REACTION

Psalm 78:19 Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness? Direction
 Provision
 Reaction
 Examination.

And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land" (v. 7).

What's the examination? Brook dries up.



"And it came to pass..."

"and it happened."

It came to pass means - "it came to be". "to become,

This did not happen by chance, it was part of God's plan.

"And it came to pass..."

Luke 2 :1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

453 times the Bible says, "And it came to pass

God wanted Elijah to see the brook dry up.

Why does the brook dry up? because there was no rain in the land".

But what did Elijah pray for? No Rain.

WHAT IS THE EXAMINATION HERE?

Elijah is your trust in Brook Cherith, or in the Living God?

Will I trust in what God has given me, or will I trust God!

Andrew Murray- Four Helps in handling trials

- 1. He has brought me here. And in that fact I will rest.
- 2. He will keep me here in his love and give me grace to behave as his child.
- 3. He will make the trial a blessing. Teaching me the lesson he intends for me to learn.
- 4. In his good time, he can bring me out again. How and when, he knows.

I am here: 1. By His appointment 2. In His keeping 3. Under His training. 4. For His Time.

I am here: By His appointment In His keeping Under His training. For His Time.

DIRECTION PROVISION REACTION EXAMINATION



And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land

8 And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

PRINCIPLE: Only move at the Word of the Lord.

Gods steps of training

Direction
 Provision
 Reaction
 Examination

1.Direction

ARISE, GO, STAY

9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Sidon, and dwell there:

ARISE, GO, STAY

9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Sidon, and dwell there:

(1) The First Direction - "Arise."

The prodigal son said, "I will ARISE and go to my father"

ARISE, GO, STAY

9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Sidon, and dwell there:

(2) The Second Direction GO

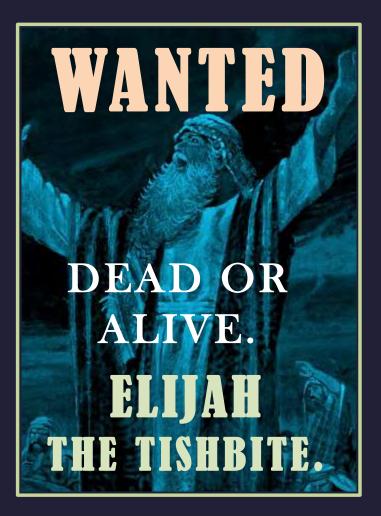
halak : means walk, take a journey



GO TO ZAREPHATH? Zarephath: means "refining". A place where metals are melted.

ELIJAH HIS REFINING

Zarephath Enemy land. The home of Jezebel. The center of Baal worship.



ARISE, GO, STAY

9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Sidon, and dwell there:

(3) The Third Direction - "and DWELL THERE." (yashab, "live, dwell")



9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Sidon, and dwell **there**.

God changes Elijah's circumstances

20 miles

20 km

Scale

Zarephath

Phoenicia

Lake Galilee

Kerith Brook

lishbe

Gin

Israel

Samaria

Why does He move us around? Circumstances develop Character.

Arise, Go to Zarephath and dwell there.

1. ARISE - "Begin by Faith" 2. GO.– "Walk by Faith" 3. STAY. – "Live by Faith".

Direction Provision Reaction Examination

Vs9... behold, I have commanded a widow woman **there** to sustain thee.

God commands a raven God commands a widow.

PRINCIPLE: Who would supply Elijah's need, the widow or the Lord?

End of scene 1 Intermission

1. Direction

- 2. Provision
- 3. Reaction
- 4. Examination

10 So he arose and went to Zarephath...

vs 10 And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was **there** gathering sticks



PRINCIPLE: God arranges meetings



ASKS FOR A DRINK

10... and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

ASKS FOR BREAD

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand. 1. Direction

- 2. Provision
- 3. Reaction
- 4. Examination

12 And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

Examination:

She has no food for Elijah!

Vs 12 And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth

Lord Your God? Liveth? The Lord must be working on her heart too.

ELIJAHS DIRECTION – FEED ME FIRST

13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

ELIJAHS DIRECTION – FEED ME FIRST

13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake **FIRST**, and bring it unto me, and **AFTER** make for thee and for thy son.

ELIJAHS PROVISION- PROMISE OF SUPPLY

14 For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

"For thus saith the Lord" The Word of the Lord.

If you have been comforted. Now you can comfort others.

2 Cor 1:4

Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil **fail**,

Psalm 23 – The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want (lack)

FAIL- Lack, Want

"UNTIL THE DAY" The Lord sends the rain.

Joshua 5 12 And the **manna ceased** on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

WIDOW'S REACTION

15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

GOD'S REACTION

16 And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah.

LESSONS 1. Look beyond what you can see.

This is all about faith. What you can't see.

God did not tell Elijah *"I am sending you to a widow who is about to die."*

LESSONS 2. God is Refining you.

He needs to make you better and stronger.

LESSONS 3. We need fresh bread everyday

Daily Manna.

God is growing Elijah's faith.

Cherith – 1 Person

Zarephath – 3 People

Four Stages for the Widow

1. DIRECTION: You make me a cake first.

2. PROVISION: God will provide food

3. REACTION: She went and did according to Elijah.**4. EXAMINATION...**

Four Stages for the Widow

1. DIRECTION: You make me a cake first.

2. PROVISION: God will provide food

3. REACTION: She went and did according to Elijah.**4. EXAMINATION...**

What's the examination?

COME BACK TOMOTTOW AND FIND OUT

HIS TRIBULATION HIS STRETCHING

1. DIRECTION:

9 – "Go to Zarephath" Go live in Baal country.

2. PROVISION:

"I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee."

3. REPONSE:

10 So he arose and went to Zarephath.

4. EXAMINATION:

She has no food for Elijah.

Four Steps for the Widow

1. DIRECTION: You make me a cake first.

2. PROVISION: God will provide food

3. REACTION: She went and did what Elijah said.**4. EXAMINATION...**

4. EXAMINATION

17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so severe, that there was no breath left in him.

18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

Her son dies.

"Now it came to pass after these things."

After all the blessing of God' provision!

ELIJAH HIS TRIBULATION

TRIBULATION

Tribulation means pressure or a squeezing.



Pressure reveals what's inside.



THE REACTION OF THE WIDOW

18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

Misconception 1: Being good eliminates tribulation

(Elijah is here, I don't have to fear)

Misconception 1: Being good eliminates tribulation

(Elijah is here, I don't have to fear)

REALITY: Godly will suffer tribulations

1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, think it not <u>strange</u> concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

Misconception 2: Being bad causes tribulation.

We say "my sin causes TRIBULATION" 18 art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance?

Misconception 2: Being bad causes tribulation.

We say "my sin causes TRIBULATION" 18 art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance?

REALITY: Not necessarily

Sin can cause Tribulation but not always.

Misconception 3: Tribulation causes bitterness

We say "I can't help my reaction to Tribulations".

"art thou come unto me to slay my son?

Guilt Anger Blame.
1. Trials hit us.
2. We wonder why.
3. We feel guilt.
4. We get angry.
5. We blame others.

Misconception 3: Tribulation causes bitterness

We say "I can't help my reaction to Tribulations".

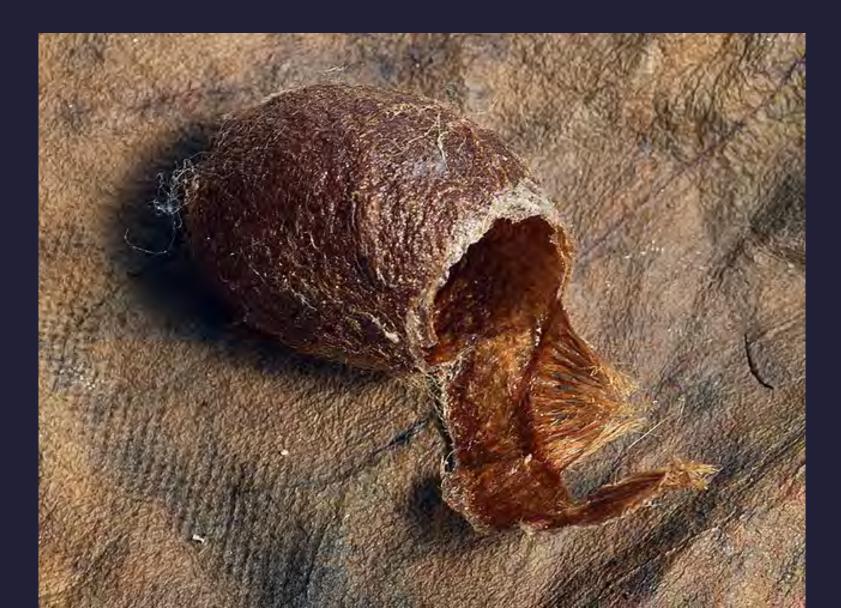
REALITY: It doesn't have to. It can help me grow.

Romans 5:3 3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that **tribulation worketh patience**;

The Emperor Moth



The Emperor Moth



The Emperor Moth



You have to stress steel to make it stronger.

HIMPER AN ALLER HAVE

ELIJAH HIS STRETCHING

STRETCHING

God wants to increase the faith of Elijah.

Reaction of Elijah

19 And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

Prayer of Elijah

20 And he cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

How can she sustain me if she has no reason to live? Lord you said she would provide until the rain comes.

Elijah's Stretching

No one has ever come back from the dead before.

Empty Brook Empty Barrel Empty Breath.

Elijah's Stretching

21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.



22 And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

Elijah Heard. 2 And the word of the Lord came unto him,

5 So he went and did according unto the **word** of the Lord:

8 And the word of the Lord came unto him,

Lord Heard. 22 And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah;



23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth.

The doctrine of resurrection. This is all new!

What is resurrection?

1. The body has to be restored. Corruption starts immediately.

2. The soul and spirit must be reunited with the body, the physical part.

"the soul of the child came into him again"

Elijah you speak Truth!

24 And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth.

Now she learned that not only does God sustain life, he gives life!

FAITH

Heb 11:11

Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Heb 11:23

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of **his parents**, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

FAITH

Heb 11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of **Samson**, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Heb 11:35 Who through faith..... Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

The Widow of Zarephath

LESSON ON PRAYER

Persist in Prayer.

James says, the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth "much".

LESSON ON SALVATION

Identification.

Elijah identified with that child in his death.

We are identified with Christ in His death for us.

LESSON ON FAITH

Stretching Your Faith

God uses stress to grow your faith.

That last bit of toothpaste take a lot of pressure to get out.



Class Examination

READ 1 KINGS 18:1-40
1. DIRECTION:
2. PROVISION:
3. REACTION:
4. EXAMINATION:



A new chapter in Elijah's Life.

1 Kings 18

18 And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, show thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth.

2 And Elijah went to show himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore famine in Samaria.

Word of the Lord came to Elijah

1. DIRECTION:

2. PROVISION:

3. REACTION:

4. EXAMINATION:

Word of the Lord came to Elijah

1. DIRECTION: Go, show thyself unto Ahab

2. PROVISION:

3. REACTION:

4. EXAMINATION:

ELIJAH HIS SHOWING

"Go, show yourself to Ahab"

Private: Go hide thyself1 Kings 17:3Public: Go show thyself1 Kings 18:1

1. DIRECTION:

2. PROVISION:

I will send rain upon the earth.

3. REACTION:

4. EXAMINATION:

Why is the rain coming now? They had not repented yet.

But would they?....

1. DIRECTION:

2. PROVISION:

3. REACTION: Elijah went to show himself to Ahab

4. EXAMINATION:

1. DIRECTION:

2. PROVISION:

3. REACTION:

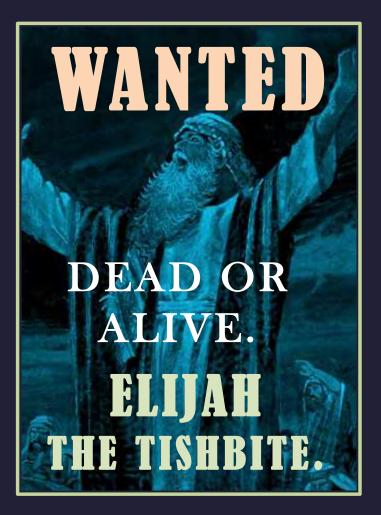
4. EXAMINATION: A showdown between God and Baal

Who is Obadiah?

- 1. Obadiah was the head of the palace of Ahab.
- 2. Obadiah was a believer. He feared the Lord.
- 3. Obadiah hid the Lord's prophets.
- 4. Obadiah wanted the best of both worlds.
 - A. Feared the Lord
 - B. Served Ahab.

Ahab wants to get Elijah

10 As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not.



HIS SHOWING

1Kings 18:15 And Elijah said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself unto him to day.

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

You Troubler!

17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

Have I finally found you?

Elijah's REACTION

18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim.

Elijah's DIRECTION

19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.

MOUNT CARMEL Carmel - a garden land

Why Carmel? Carmel was the site of Baal wors

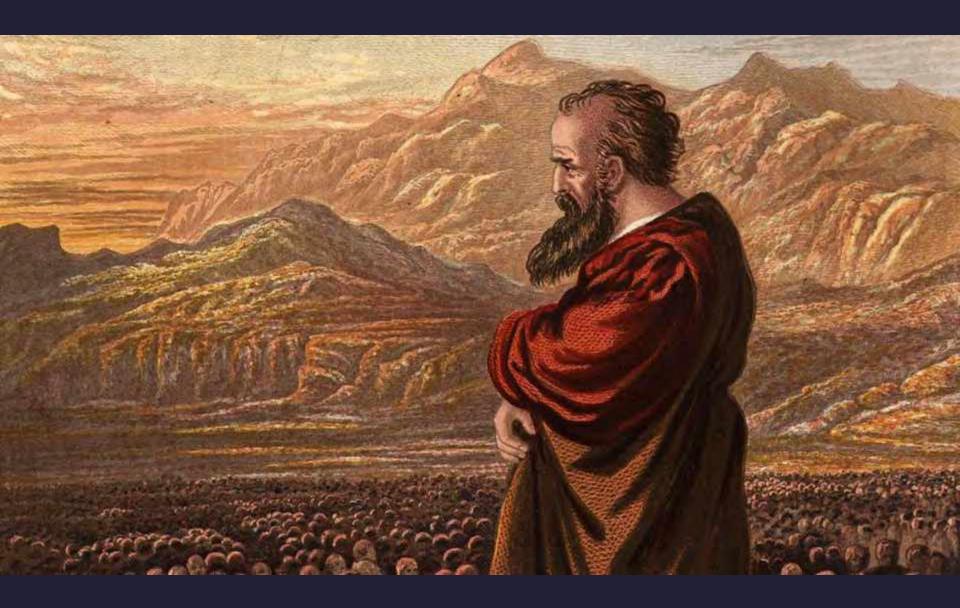
HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

850 to 1

God plus one is a majority

Ahab's REACTION

20 So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.



Conscience
 Thoughts
 Hearts

Just like Romans 2:15

Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

1. Elijah appeals their conscience

21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.

1. Elijah appeals their conscience

21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.

HALT – Limp, Hesitate You hesitate. You are undecided.

Make up your mind. It is going to be God or Baal? Pick one.

SILENCE OF THE PEOPLE

Verse 21,"And the people answered him not a word."

BATTLE GODS SHOWDOWN

THE SHOWDOWN PROPOSED

23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

24 And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

2. Elijah appeals their thoughts

God gives evidence so that we may believe Think through your conclusion.

Baal was in charge of the weather. The Rain The Sun

A contrast between the prophets.

1. BIGGER NUMBERS – Winner: Baal Prophets 850 -1 were the odds.

2. THE LOCATION - Winner: Baal Prophets – Mount Carmel, their home field.

3. POPULARITY - Winner: Baal Prophets Baal was the popular religion of the day, The King and the Queen.

Why Elijah say pray for fire and not rain?

Fire in Israel's History:

- The Pillar of Fire
- Mount Sinai and the Law-
- The offerings upon the Tabernacle Altar,

Why Fire?

Because a sacrifice was needed for sin.



The Baal priests sacrifice

26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

O Baal...Hear us!"

Elijah mocks them

27 And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or perhaps he sleepeth, and must be awaked.



Maybe he's on the phone? Maybe he's busy? Maybe he's out of town? Maybe he's taking nap"

Why did he say these things? Appeal to their Reason, their Thoughts.

Baal priests cry louder

27 Elijah mocked them, Cry aloud...... 28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

29 And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

6 hours go by. Silence from heaven.

3. Elijah appeals their hearts

30 And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

REPAIRED THE ALTAR

30 And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:

Shows a sacrifice is the way to come to God.

Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice

Soak it down completely.

Elijah's 20 second prayer

36 Elijah said...

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

He appeals to their heart. Does Baal care about people?

"Let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel"

God is re-establishing His authority in Israel.

 \bigcirc

God's glory

37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their **heart** back again.

He touched the people through their **HEART**.



Fire Falls

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



People Worship

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

The LORD Jehovah He is the God.

Killing the priests

40 And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.



Now was that really necessary?

Deut 18: 20 But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die.



Their conscience – Awakening a choice of right and wrong.

Their thoughts – Evidence that demands a verdict.

Their hearts – Reminder of our living, loving, personal God

Where did the fire of God fall? Just on the innocent sacrifice.

Message of the Old Testament **1. The Lord is God.**

Message of the Old Testament **1. The Lord is God.**

Message of the New Testament **2. Jesus Christ is Lord.**



Stand where the fire has been.

ELIJAH HIS CONFIDENCE HIS TRAINING HIS REFINING HIS TRIBULATION HIS STRETCHING HIS SHOWING

I was guilty with nothing to say And they were coming to take me away But then a voice from heaven was heard that said "Let him go" and take me instead.

I should have been crucified I should have suffered and died I should have hung on the cross in disgrace But Jesus, God's Son took my place.