

9 – AHAB & ELIJAH – PART 2 (1 KINGS 18:20-19:21)

I. Elijah on Mt. Carmel (1 Kings 18:20-46)

A. Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:20-40)

- Ahab called for all Israel and the prophets of Baal to gather at Mount Carmel.
- Elijah asked the people how long they will falter between two opinions.
- They must make a choice to follow the Lord or Baal if one of them is God.
- He proposed that he and the prophets of Baal offer a sacrifice to their God without fire.
- Whichever god accepts and consumes the sacrifice is the true God.
- The people accepted Elijah's words and he told the prophets of Baal to prepare their sacrifice.
- The prophets of Baal prepared their sacrifice and tried to draw the attention of their god.
- Elijah mocked them by telling them that perhaps Baal was away or sleeping.
- Elijah then called the people to him and repaired the altar to the Lord with a trench around it.
- He then arranged the sacrifice and wood and had water poured over it three times.
- Elijah then called on the Lord so that people would turn back to him.
- Fire from the Lord fell and consumed the sacrifice and the water.
- The people fell on their faces and acknowledged that the Lord was God.
- Elijah then had the prophets of Baal seized and they were executed.

B. Elijah prays for Rain (1 Kings 18:41-46)

- Elijah tells Ahab to eat and drink for there is the sound of an abundance of rain.
- As Ahab went to celebrate, Elijah went up the top of Mount Carmel where he prayed.
- He sent his servant to look towards the sea seven times and report back to him each time.
- After the seventh time, the servant reported that he saw a cloud coming up out of the sea.
- Elijah then told Ahab to flee in his chariot before the rain comes.
- The hand of the Lord came upon Elijah and he outran Ahab to Jezreel.

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II. The Journey to Horeb (1 Kings 19:1-21)

A. Elijah Flees From Jezebel (1 Kings 19:1-7)

- Ahab told Jezebel all that happened on Mount Carmel and how the prophets were executed.
- Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah with a threat to kill him within the next 24 hours.
- Elijah then fled for his life and went to Beersheba in Judah, where he left his servant.
- From there he went a day's journey into the wilderness where he rested under a juniper tree.
- Being depressed, Elijah prayed that the Lord would take his life.
- While he slept under the tree, the Angel of the Lord awakened him and told him to eat.
- The Angel of the Lord came a second time and awakened him to eat again.

B. Elijah At Horeb (1 Kings 19:8-18)

- In the strength of the food, Elijah fled to Horeb, the mountain of God.
- As he was spending a night in a cave at the mountain, the Lord asked him why he was there.
- Elijah responded that he has been zealous for the Lord and that Israel has forsaken the Lord.
- Israel had torn down the altars to the Lord and killed his prophets.
- He states that he alone is left of the prophets and that they seek to take his life.
- The Lord called to Elijah to go out and stand before the him.
- The Lord passed by and there was a great wind, an earthquake and then a fire.
- However, when the Lord spoke to him in a still small voice, Elijah went out.
- Again, the Lord asked Elijah why he was there and he gave the same response.
- The Lord told Elijah to anoint Hazael as king over Syria and Jehu as king over Israel.
- Elijah was also to anoint Elisha as prophet in his place.
- The Lord also tells Elijah that there are yet 7,000 in Israel who have not worshipped Baal.

C. The Calling of Elisha (1 Kings 19:19-21)

- Elijah departed from Horeb and found Elisha plowing with 12 yoke of oxen.

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- Elijah then passed by Elisha and then threw his mantle on him.
- Elisha then asked to go and tell his parents goodbye before he would follow Elisha.
- Elijah responded by telling Elisha to go back and do what he requested.
- The idiom “for what I have I done to you” means “How have I stopped you?”
- Elisha slaughtered the oxen and gave the meat to the people before following Elijah.