



# **Elijah: A Man Like Us –**

**1 Kings 17:1**

**James 5:17-18**

## **James 5:17-18 (KJV)**

*<sup>17</sup> Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are/ he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. <sup>18</sup> And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.*

## **James 5:17-18 (AMP)**

<sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being with a **nature** such as we have [with **feelings, affections, and a constitution like ours**]; and he prayed earnestly for it not to rain, and no rain fell on the earth for three years and six months.

<sup>18</sup> And [then] he prayed again and the heavens supplied rain and the land produced its crops [as usual].

## **1 Kings 17:1 (KJV)**

*<sup>1</sup> 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.*

# We are Called to Make a Difference

- Abraham Lincoln said,  
*"If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem"*
- Anyone Can Criticize  
...But It Takes Commitment to Make an Impact
- Anyone Can Analyze the Situation  
...But It Takes Action to Change Things

Times of Crisis Call For Courageous and Committed Believers

- We Are the Salt of the Earth
- The Light of the World
- Ambassadors Of Christ

We Can Learn How to Make a Difference From Elijah

# Elijah is Central in Scripture

- Lived 850 Years Before Christ
  - Ministry Marked By Miracles Not Seen Since Moses
  - Last Old Test. Prophecy Is About Him...
    - ...He Would Come Before The Messiah Appeared (Mal. 4:5-6)
  - Fulfilled in Ministry of John the Baptist (Matt. 11:11-15; 17:11-13)
    - John Came *"in the spirit and power of Elijah"* (Luke 1:17)
    - Elijah appeared to Jesus/ Moses at Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1-9)
    - At Passover a Chair is Left for Elijah at the Table/ the Door is Opened in Anticipation for Him
- "Elijah was a man just like us"* (James 5:17-18)**

## **Israel was a Divided Kingdom**

- **King Ahab was the Most Wicked King of the North to Date**
- **He Married Jezebel, Her Father was King of Sidon / Priest Of Baal**
- **Jezebel= "*Where Is Baal?*"**

**Jezebel Brought Baal Worship to Israel / Infiltrated Land w- False Prophets And Priests of this Pagan Cult  
God Was About to Come On the Seen...**

**...In a Big Way**

**...To Bring A Nation Back To Him**

**...With the Least Likely Person – “Elijah”**

**What Does Elijah Teach Us About...  
...Making a Difference?**

**DIFFERENCE**



# **Define Yourself by Your Relationship to God**

**Elijah's Name is a Combination of Two Divine Names**

**Elohim and Yahweh = "*Yahweh is my God*"**

**Our Personal Identity is Derived From...**

**...Our Relationship to God as Our Creator**

**...and to Jesus as Lord of Our Lives.**

**Child  
of  
God**

# **Define Yourself by Your Relationship to God**

## **Your Pedigree Doesn't Matter**

- **Elijah Came Out of Nowhere**
- **We Don't Even Know His Background**
- **He Offers No Credentials-Just an Announcement of God's Word**
- **God Calls Unlikely People to Do Extraordinary Things.**

## **Your Past Doesn't Matter**

- **Elijah was From Tishbe in Gilead**
- **We Don't Know About His Family**
- **God's Grace Can Overcome Anything in Your Past**
- **Your Background is Not Important;**  
**It's Where You Are Today that Counts**



# Define Yourself by Your Relationship to God

- Your Pedigree Doesn't Matter
- Your Past Doesn't Matter

## Your Personality Doesn't Matter

- Confrontational, Abrasive, Larger than Life, Almost Angry
- We Know that He was Subject to Depression
- James says He Was a Man Like Us
- God Used Ordinary People Who Understood Their Times...  
...And Decided to Make a Difference.

## Your Potential Doesn't Matter

- Some Fail to See Their God-given Potential/ Feel Inadequate
- You are Gifted by God, So Face Life with Confidence

# Depend on God W- Confidence in His Word

*"As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives..."* (17:1)

## God is Alive and at Work

- Baal was a lifeless idol
- Our God is Alive and Active
- He is Not Detached or Distant, and is Certainly Not Dead
- Jesus said, *"I am with you always"* -Matt. 28:20

## God's Word is Alive -Heb. 4:12

- Elijah's Prophetic Power was Based on Scripture.
- He Confronted Ahab with the Word of God (drought)
- We Too Have the Bible...

...Which is the Living Word

...to Guide Us

# Depend on God w- Confidence in His Word

*"As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives..." (17:1)*

## Give the Word of God Time to Work

- Elijah appeared in Ahab's court with the message, then he went into obscurity for 3.5 years
- He Gave the Word of God Time to Work
- *"My Word will not return to me void but will accomplish the purpose for which I sent it"* -Isa. 55:11
- We Want and Expect Everything to Happen Overnight
- But the Word of God is like a Seed that Takes Time to Grow and Produce a Harvest of Righteousness.

**The Word Will Do the Work!**

# Dedicate Yourself to God's Mission for Your Life

## *"whom I serve" (17:1)*

Literally Hebrew, *"before whom I stand"*

- Technical Expression= *"one who stands in the service of a king"*
  - Elijah Stands Before God as a Servant Stands Before His Master
- Get Your Marching Orders From God

Don't Try to Get God to Support Your Mission, But Rather

... Submit Yourself to His Mission For Your Life and

... See What He Will Do Both in Your Life

...and With Your Life for His Glory

**YOU  
CAN  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE**



**I WILL**

**I WILL**

**I WILL**

**I WILL**

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**I WILL**

**I WILL**