

# The Days of Elijah

## Good Things in the Life of Elijah

- God's Provision for Elijah at the Brook Cherith (1 Kings 17:2-6)
- Miracle of Provision for the Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8-16)
- Raising of the Widow's Son (1 Kings 17:17-24)
- God's Fire Consumed Elijah's Sacrifice at Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:20-40)
- Elijah's Bold Proclamation of Drought as God's Judgment (1 Kings 17:1)
- Challenging the Prophets of Baal and Asherah (1 Kings 18:19-20)
- God Answered Elijah's Prayer for Rain, Ending the Drought (1 Kings 18:41-46)
- God Encouraged Elijah in His Despair with a Still Small Voice (1 Kings 19:9-18)
- Elijah's Anointing of Kings – Hazael King of Syria and Jehu King of Israel (1 Kings 19:15-16)
- God Preserved a Faithful Remnant Through Elijah's Ministry (1 Kings 19:18)
- Elijah's Anointing of Elisha as His Successor (1 Kings 19:19-21)

## Evil Things and Negative Experiences in the Days of Elijah

### Idolatry and False Worship

-Ahab promoted Baal worship, influenced by Jezebel.

**1 Kings 16:32-33** And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

-False prophets of Baal and Asherah led Israel astray.

1 Kings 18:21 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. And the people answered him not a word.

### Moral and Spiritual Corruption

-Ahab's Unprecedented Wickedness

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

-Jezebel's Persecution and Murder of God's Prophets

1 Kings 18:4 For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.

### **Injustice and Covetousness**

-Ahab and Jezebel Scheme to Seize Naboth's Vineyard Through Lies and Murder

**1 Kings 21:7** And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite. ... And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them.

### **Resistance to God's Word**

-Ahab's Rejection of Elijah's Warnings and God's Judgment

**1 Kings 19:15, 17** And the Lord said unto Elijah, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: ... And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazeal shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

-Jezebel's Threat for Elijah's Life After the Mount Carmel Victory

**1 Kings 19:1-2** And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.

### **Elijah's Depression, Despair, and Suicidal Thoughts**

-Elijah Fled in Fear and Despair, Feeling Alone , Overwhelmed, and Suicidal

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**1 Kings 19:3-4** And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. 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 away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

-Elijah Expressed Feelings of Isolation and Futility

**1 Kings 19:9-10** And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

## Practical Applications

- **Trust in God's Provision:** Rely on God's supernatural provision in times of scarcity, as seen at Cherith and Zarephath (1 Kings 17:2-16).
- **Boldness in Confronting Falsehood:** Stand firm against compromise, boldly proclaiming truth like Elijah at Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:19-40).
- **Perseverance in Prayer and Intercession:** Persist in faith-filled prayer, trusting God's timing, as Elijah did for rain (1 Kings 18:41-46).
- **God's Power Through Obedience:** Obey God's call to unleash His power, as shown in Elijah's miracles (1 Kings 17:1; 18:38).
- **Mentorship and Legacy:** Invest in others, as Elijah did with Elisha, to ensure God's work continues (1 Kings 19:19-21).
- **Resisting Idolatry:** Guard against modern idols, discerning and rejecting falsehood like Elijah opposed Baal worship (1 Kings 16:31-33).
- **Confronting Injustice:** Address injustice with godly resolve, trusting God's judgment, as seen in Naboth's vineyard (1 Kings 21:7-16).
- **Overcoming Despair, Depression, and Suicidal Thoughts:** Seek God's presence in weakness, as Elijah did under the juniper tree, finding restoration (1 Kings 19:4-12).
- **Resilience Against Opposition:** Endure hostility with faith, knowing God's truth prevails, despite threats like Jezebel's (1 Kings 19:1-2).
- **God's Sovereignty Over Evil:** Trust God's ultimate authority over evil, as shown in His judgment on Ahab and Jezebel (1 Kings 21:23; 2 Kings 9:30-37).