

ELIJAH SECRET CHURCH



GUIDED SCRIPTURE JOURNAL



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WHY ELIJAH?

ELIJAH'S LIFE WAS MARKED BY FIRE AND FRAILITY. HE STOOD WITH FEARLESS FAITH AGAINST KINGS AND IDOLS, EVEN AS HE STRUGGLED WITH FEAR AND DESPAIR. HIS LIFE TESTIFIES THAT COURAGE COMES NOT FROM HUMAN STRENGTH, BUT FROM TRUST IN THE ONE TRUE GOD WHOSE SPLENDOR SHINES IN BOTH STUNNING MIRACLES AND SOFT WHISPERS. HIS STORY CALLS US TO STAND FIRM IN A WORLD OF COMPROMISE, TO LIVE FOR WHAT MATTERS FOREVER, AND TO GIVE OUR ALL EACH DAY FOR THE GLORY OF THE ONE WHO IS HOLY ABOVE US, YET NEAR TO US.

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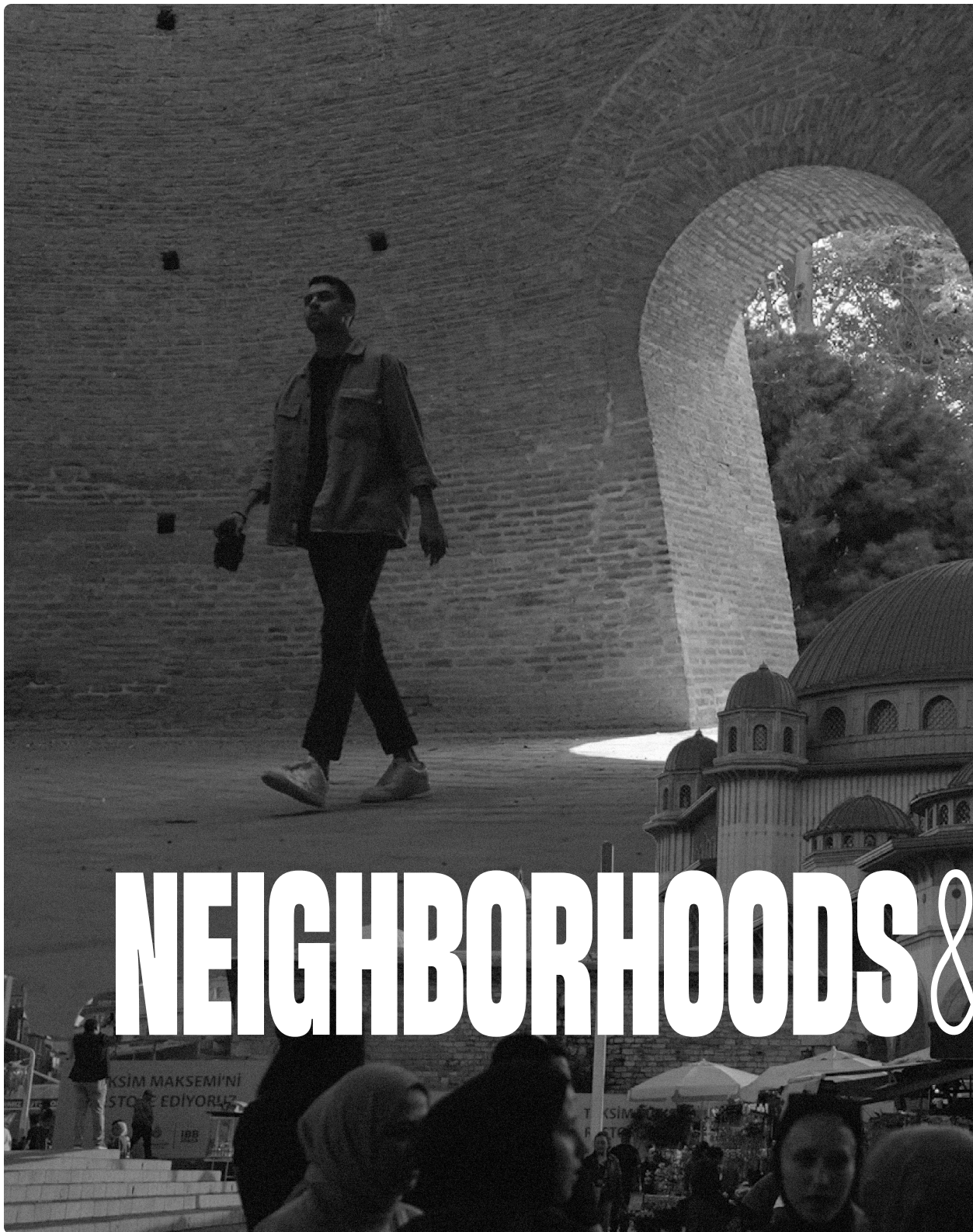
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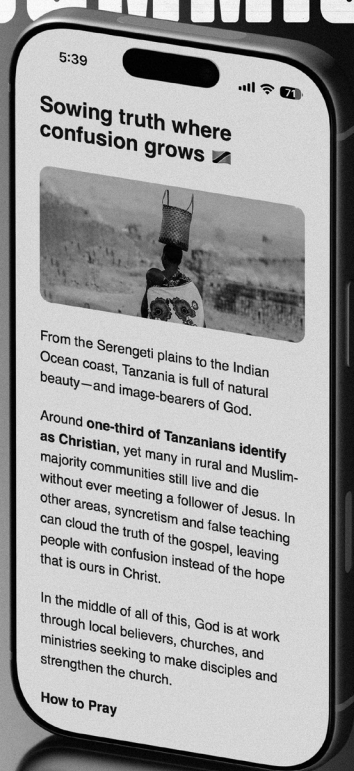


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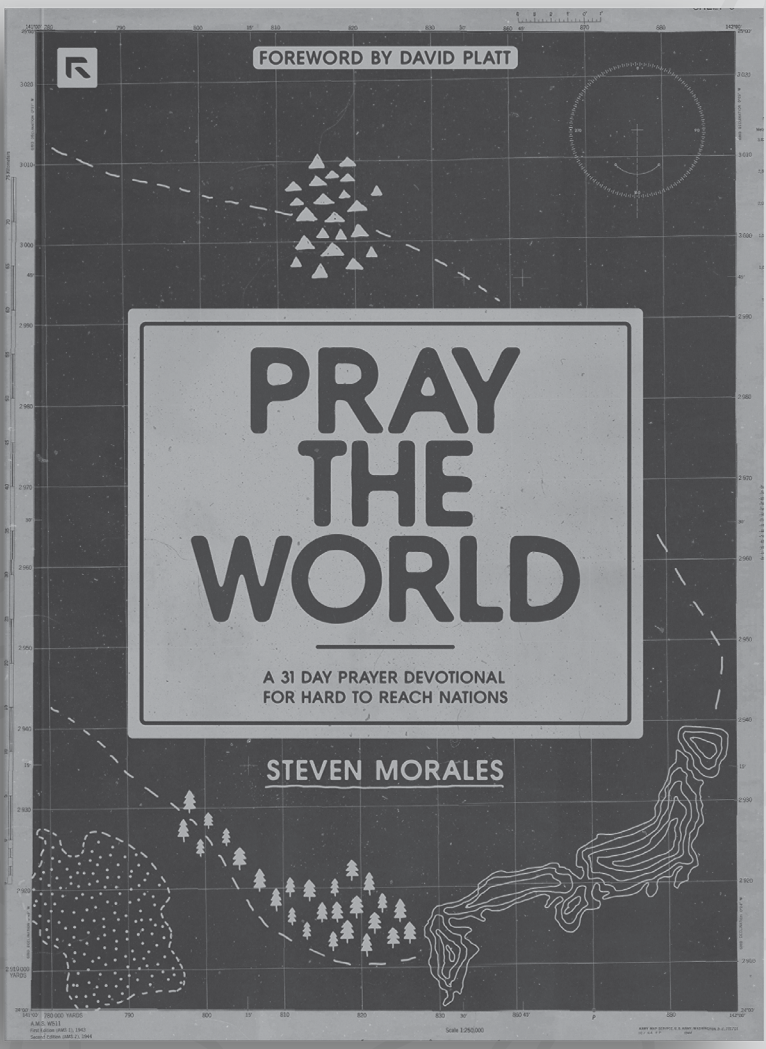


FOREWORD BY DAVID PLATT

PRAY THE WORLD

A 31 DAY PRAYER DEVOTIONAL
FOR HARD TO REACH NATIONS

STEVEN MORALES



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ABOUT DAVID PLATT

David Platt serves as a Lead Pastor for McLean Bible Church. He is also the Founder of Radical, an organization that works to make Jesus known everywhere.

David received his B.A. from the University of Georgia and M.Div., Th.M., and Ph.D. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Some of his published works include *Radical*, *Radical Together*, *Follow Me*, *Counter Culture*, *Something Needs to Change*, *Don't Hold Back*, and *How to Read the Bible*.

He lives in the Washington, D.C. metro area with his wife and children.

ABOUT RADICAL

Radical exists to make Jesus known everywhere. We do this by producing content that provides a global vision for following Jesus and making him known, and investing resources to make Jesus known where he is least known.

BLESSING

THE WORD OF GOD IN ELIJAH'S MOUTH

W O I S E

1 KINGS 17

It is possible for the people of God to be duped into promises of national prosperity while turning a blind eye to rampant immorality and idolatry.

2 Kings 9:36b–37

“This is the word of the LORD, which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite: ‘In the territory of Jezreel the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel,³⁷ and the corpse of Jezebel shall be as dung on the face of the field in the territory of Jezreel, so that no one can say, This is Jezebel.’”

1 Kings 16:32–33

³² He erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he built in Samaria. ³³ And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

Dotted lines for writing.

1 Kings 11:4-8

4 For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and did not wholly follow the LORD, as David his father had done. 7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites, on the mountain east of Jerusalem. 8 And so he did for all his foreign wives, who made offerings and sacrificed to their gods.

It is possible for God’s people to claim to worship God while their hearts are running after all kinds of gods.

1 Kings 16:34

³⁴ In his days Hiel of Bethel built Jericho. He laid its foundation at the cost of Abiram his firstborn, and set up its gates at the cost of his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which he spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

Joshua 6:26

²⁶ Joshua laid an oath on them at that time, saying, “Cursed before the LORD be the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho.

“At the cost of his firstborn
shall he lay its foundation,
and at the cost of his youngest son
shall he set up its gates.”

1 Kings 17:1

¹ Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel,

the early rain and the later rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil.

¹⁵ And he will give grass in your fields for your livestock, and you shall eat and be full. ¹⁶ Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them; ¹⁷ then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain, and the land will yield no fruit, and you will perish quickly off the good land that the LORD is giving you.

1 Kings 17:2–3

² And the word of the LORD came to him:

³ “Depart from here and turn eastward and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.

Amos 8:11–12

¹¹ “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord GOD,
 “when I will send a famine on the land—

not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water,
but of hearing the words of the LORD.

¹² They shall wander from sea to sea,
and from north to east;
they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of
the LORD,
but they shall not find it.

Deuteronomy 8:3

³ And he humbled you and let you hunger and
fed you with manna, which you did not know,
nor did your fathers know, that he might make
you know that man does not live by bread
alone, but man lives by every word that comes
from the mouth of the LORD.

1 Kings 17:4-6

⁴ You shall drink from the brook, and I have
commanded the ravens to feed you there.” ⁵ So
he went and did according to the word of the
LORD. He went and lived by the brook Cherith
that is east of the Jordan. ⁶ And the ravens
brought him bread and meat in the morning,

and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

Exodus 16:12b

‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

1 Kings 17:7–10

⁷ And after a while the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land. ⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to him, ⁹ “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” 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, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.”

¹⁶ The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

¹⁷ After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him.

¹⁸ And she said to Elijah, “What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!” ¹⁹ And he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰ And he cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?” ²¹ Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, let this child’s life come into him again.” ²² And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³ And Elijah took the

‘Oh yes, they can!’ Evil is capable of exponential ‘progress.’ You may have been scrapping against a Jeroboam level of godlessness and then find yourself warring against an Ahab level.”

— Dale Ralph Davis

2. Our God is _____ .

“Doesn’t it put iron in your bones and steel in your guts to see that, whatever threat arises, with Yahweh the defense is always ready?”

— Dale Ralph Davis

3. His work is _____ .

4. His Word is _____ . . .

- Of our obedience.
- Of our trust.

Luke 4:24-30

²⁴ And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.

²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath.

²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.

5. The most important thing in your life is your personal _____ with the Lord.

Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Joshua 10:12-14

¹² At that time Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel,

“Sun, stand still at Gibeon,
and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.”

¹³ And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped,
until the nation took vengeance on their enemies.

Is this not written in the Book of Jashar? The sun stopped in the midst of heaven and did not hurry to set for about a whole day.

¹⁴ There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD heeded the voice of a man, for the LORD fought for Israel.

Matthew 15:21–28

²¹ And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

²² And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.”

²³ But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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BLESSING

THE GLORY OF GOD THROUGH ELIJAH'S FAITH

W O Z S E

1 KINGS 18

when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water.)⁵ And Ahab said to Obadiah, “Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys. Perhaps we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, and not lose some of the animals.”⁶ So they divided the land between them to pass through it. Ahab went in one direction by himself, and Obadiah went in another direction by himself.

⁷ And as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him. And Obadiah recognized him and fell on his face and said, “Is it you, my lord Elijah?”

⁸ And he answered him, “It is I. Go, tell your lord, ‘Behold, Elijah is here.’”⁹ And he said, “How have I sinned, that you would give your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?”

¹⁰ As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent to seek you. And when they would say, ‘He is not here,’ he would take an oath of the kingdom or

Joshua 7:25a

²⁵ And Joshua said, “Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD brings trouble on you today.”

1 Kings 18:18–21

¹⁸ And he answered, “I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father’s house, because you have abandoned the commandments of the LORD and followed the Baals. ¹⁹ Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

²⁰ So Ahab sent to all the people of Israel and gathered the prophets together at Mount Carmel. ²¹ And Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.” And the people did not answer him a word.

2 Samuel 4:4

⁴ Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse took him up and fled, and as she fled in her haste, he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

2 Samuel 9:13

¹³ So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

Proverbs 26:7

⁷ Like a lame man's legs, which hang useless, is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

Exodus 20:1-6

¹ And God spoke all these words, saying,
² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³ “You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Deuteronomy 6:4–5

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

1 Kings 18:21b-31

And the people did not answer him a word.

²² Then Elijah said to the people, “I, even I

only, am left a prophet of the LORD, but Baal's prophets are 450 men. ²³ Let two bulls be given to us, and let them choose one bull for themselves and cut it in pieces and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it. And I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood and put no fire to it. ²⁴ And you call upon the name of your god, and I will call upon the name of the LORD, and the God who answers by fire, he is God." And all the people answered, "It is well spoken." ²⁵ Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many, and call upon the name of your god, but put no fire to it." ²⁶ And they took the bull that was given them, and they prepared it and called upon the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice, and no one answered. And they limped around the altar that they had made. ²⁷ And at noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he

is asleep and must be awakened.”²⁸ And they cried aloud and cut themselves after their custom with swords and lances, until the blood gushed out upon them.²⁹ And as midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice. No one answered; no one paid attention.

³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come near to me.” And all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been thrown down.³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD came, saying, “Israel shall be your name,”

Joshua 4:1–3

¹ When all the nation had finished passing over the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua,² “Take twelve men from the people, from each tribe a man,³ and command them, saying, ‘Take twelve stones from here out of the midst of the

Jordan, from the very place where the priests’ feet stood firmly, and bring them over with you and lay them down in the place where you lodge tonight.’ ”

1 Kings 18:32–39

³² and with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD. And he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two seahs of seed. ³³ And he put the wood in order and cut the bull in pieces and laid it on the wood. And he said, “Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood.” 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. ³⁵ And the water ran around the altar and filled the trench also with water.

³⁶ And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, “O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel,

and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. ³⁷ Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” ³⁸ Then the 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. ³⁹ And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God.”

Leviticus 9:24

²⁴ And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

¹ As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the

burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. ² And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house.

³ When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

1 Kings 18:40

⁴⁰ And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape." And they seized them. And Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon and slaughtered them there.

Deuteronomy 13:1-11

¹ "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, ² and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other

gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,'³ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams.

For the LORD your God is testing you, to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.⁴ You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him.⁵ But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to make you leave the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

⁶ "If your brother, the son of your mother, or your son or your daughter or the wife you embrace or your friend who is as your own soul entices you secretly, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which neither you nor your fathers have known,⁷ some of the gods of the peoples who are around you, whether near you or far off

from you, from the one end of the earth to the other, ⁸ you shall not yield to him or listen to him, nor shall your eye pity him, nor shall you spare him, nor shall you conceal him.

⁹ But you shall kill him. Your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. ¹⁰ You shall stone him to death with stones, because he sought to draw you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ¹¹ And all Israel shall hear and fear and never again do any such wickedness as this among you.

1 Kings 18:41

⁴¹ And Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain.”

Exodus 24:9–11

⁹ Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up,

¹⁰ and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹ And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

1 Kings 18:42–45a

⁴² So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees. ⁴³ And he said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” And he went up and looked and said, “There is nothing.” And he said, “Go again,” seven times. ⁴⁴ And at the seventh time he said, “Behold, a little cloud like a man’s hand is rising from the sea.” And he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.’” ⁴⁵ And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain.

3. There is only one true God who is worthy of all your worship, so leave behind the _____ life of dancing before false gods in this world.

“If you try to get your life—your meaning, your worth, your fire—from anything but the one true God, you will be lame all your life.”

— John Piper

Psalm 115:4–9a

- ⁴ Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.
- ⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak;
eyes, but do not see.
- ⁶ They have ears, but do not hear;
noses, but do not smell.
- ⁷ They have hands, but do not feel;
feet, but do not walk;
and they do not make a sound in their
throat.
- ⁸ Those who make them become like them;
so do all who trust in them.
- ⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD!

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

4. God wills to change the world through _____ who stake their lives on his Word for his glory.

Habakkuk 2:14

¹⁴ For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Matthew 6:9-10

⁹ Pray then like this:
“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
¹⁰ Your kingdom come,

Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have
commanded you. And behold, I am with you
always, to the end of the age.”

5. God delights in beating the odds, so
don't be afraid to ask God to do the

_____ .

6. Spend your life _____ with
confidence in God's Word, _____
the glory of God's grace, and
_____ the power of God's name.

James 5:16b-18

The prayer of a righteous person has great
power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man
with a nature like ours, and he prayed
fervently that it might not rain, and for three
years and six months it did not rain on the
earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven
gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

1 Kings 18:37

³⁷ “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.”

“When I was coming to Christ, I thought I was doing it all myself, and though I sought the Lord earnestly, I had no idea the Lord was seeking me. I do not think the young convert is at first aware of this. I can recall the very day and hour when first I received these truths...One week-night, when I was sitting in the house of God, I was not thinking much about the preacher’s sermon. The thought struck me, How did you come to be a Christian? I sought the Lord. But how did you come to seek the Lord? The truth flashed across my mind in a moment—I should not have sought him unless there had been some previous influence in my mind to make me seek him. I prayed, thought I, but then I asked myself, How came I to pray? I was induced to pray by reading the Scriptures. How came I to read the Scriptures? I did read them, but what led me to

do so? Then, in a moment, I saw that God was at the bottom of it all, and that he was the Author of my faith, and so the doctrine of grace opened up to me, and from that doctrine I have not departed to this day, and I desire to make this my constant confession, 'I ascribe my change wholly to God.'"

— Charles Spurgeon

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DEPRESSION

THE GRACE OF GOD AMIDST ELIJAH'S DESPAIR

W O 3 S E

1 KINGS 19

the fire of the LORD burned among them and consumed some outlying parts of the camp.

² Then the people cried out to Moses, and Moses prayed to the LORD, and the fire died down.

³ So the name of that place was called Taberah, because the fire of the LORD burned among them.

Numbers 11:11–15

¹¹ Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ ¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness.”

Deuteronomy 5:2

² The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

Exodus 24:18

¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Exodus 34:1-14

¹ The LORD said to Moses, “Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. ² Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. ³ No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain.” ⁴ So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took

in his hand two tablets of stone. ⁵ The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

⁶ The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.” ⁸ And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. ⁹ And he said, “If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.”

¹⁰ And he said, “Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the

LORD, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.

¹¹ Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ¹² Take care, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you go, lest it become a snare in your midst. ¹³ You shall tear down their altars and break their pillars and cut down their Asherim ¹⁴ (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God),

1 Kings 19:9–10

⁹ There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰ He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with

the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.”

Jeremiah 23:18

¹⁸ For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

Jeremiah 23:21-22

²¹ “I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.

²² But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

Exodus 32:31b

“Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold.

1 Kings 19:11–12a

¹¹ And he said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke 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. ¹² And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

Exodus 19:16–18

¹⁶ On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled.

¹⁷ Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at

the foot of the mountain.¹⁸ Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly.

1 Kings 19:12b–14

And after the fire the sound of a low whisper.¹³ And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”¹⁴ He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.”

Romans 11:1–3

¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a

descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? ³ “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.”

1 Kings 19:15–18

¹⁵ And the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. ¹⁶ And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. ¹⁷ And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

Takeaways

1. In dark days in your life, remember that God is _____, God is _____, and God is _____ in his pursuit of you and your good.

- When your life doesn't work out the way you want, will God be _____ for you?
- Get alone with God and _____, _____ pray to him.
- Listen closely to the whisper of his _____ in his Word.
- _____ with others how they can be praying for or with you in the darkness.

2. Amidst darkness in the world, may your deepest _____ be the spread of God's light.

Psalm 96:3-9

- 3 Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the
peoples!
- 4 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be
praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the peoples are
worthless idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
- 6 Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his
sanctuary.
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the
peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his
name;
bring an offering, and come into his
courts!

9 Worship the LORD in the splendor of
 holiness;
 tremble before him, all the earth!

Matthew 6:9

9 Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name.

3. At every moment, realize that God involves you in his mission not because he needs you, but because he _____ you.

“Almighty God, just because he is almighty, needs no support. The picture of a nervous, ingratiating God fawning over men to win their favor is not a pleasant one; yet if we look at the popular conception of God that is precisely what we see. Twentieth-century Christianity has put God on charity. So lofty is our opinion of ourselves that we find it quite easy, not to say enjoyable, to believe that we are necessary to God. ... Probably the hardest thought of all for

our natural egotism to entertain is that God does not need our help. We commonly represent Him as a busy, eager, somewhat frustrated Father hurrying about seeking help to carry out His benevolent plan to bring peace and salvation to the world. ... Too many missionary appeals are based upon this fancied frustration of Almighty God. An effective speaker can easily excite pity in his hearers, not only for the heathen but for the God who has tried so hard and so long to save them and has failed for want of support. I fear that thousands of younger persons enter Christian service from no higher motive than to help deliver God from the embarrassing situation His love has gotten Him into and His limited abilities seem unable to get Him out of. Add to this a certain degree of commendable idealism and a fair amount of compassion for the underprivileged and you have the true drive behind much Christian activity today.”

— A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

Matthew 4:19

¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Luke 14:25-27

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:33

³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

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1 KINGS 21 – 2 KINGS 2

1 Kings 21:17-29

¹⁷ Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 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 to take possession. ¹⁹ And you shall say to him, “Thus says the LORD, “Have you killed and also taken possession?”” And you shall say to him, “Thus says the LORD: “In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick your own blood.””

²⁰ Ahab said to Elijah, “Have you found me, O my enemy?” He answered, “I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the LORD. ²¹ Behold, I will bring disaster upon you. I will utterly burn you up, and will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel. 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, for the anger to which you have provoked me, and because you have made Israel to sin. ²³ And

of Jezebel the LORD also said, ‘The dogs shall eat Jezebel within the walls of Jezreel.’

²⁴ Anyone belonging to Ahab who dies in the city the dogs shall eat, and anyone of his who dies in the open country the birds of the heavens shall eat.” ²⁵ (There was none who sold himself to do what was evil in the sight of the LORD like Ahab, whom Jezebel his wife incited. ²⁶ He acted very abominably in going after idols, as the Amorites had done, whom the LORD cast out before the people of Israel.)

²⁷ And when Ahab heard those words, he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his flesh and fasted and lay in sackcloth and went about dejectedly. ²⁸ And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ²⁹ “Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself before me, I will not bring the disaster in his days; but in his son’s days I will bring the disaster upon his house.”

him and provoked the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger in every way that his father had done.

2 Kings 1:1-3

¹ After the death of Ahab, Moab rebelled against Israel. ² Now Ahaziah fell through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samaria, and lay sick; so he sent messengers, telling them, “Go, inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this sickness.” 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?’”

Psalm 27:4

⁴ One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD

all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.

2 Kings 1:4-18

⁴ Now therefore thus says the LORD, You shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.” So Elijah went.

⁵ The messengers returned to the king, and he said to them, “Why have you returned?” ⁶ And they said to him, “There came a man to meet us, and said to us, ‘Go back 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 to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.’” ⁷ He said to them, “What kind of man was he who came to meet you and told you these things?” ⁸ They answered him, “He wore a garment of hair, with a belt

of leather about his waist.” And he said, “It is Elijah the Tishbite.”

⁹ Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty men with his fifty. He went up to Elijah, who was sitting on the top of a hill, and said to him, “O man of God, the king says, ‘Come down.’”

¹⁰ But Elijah answered 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.

¹¹ Again the king sent to him another captain of fifty men with his fifty. And he answered and said to him, “O man of God, this is the king’s order, ‘Come down quickly!’” ¹² But Elijah answered 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.

¹³ Again the king sent the captain of a third fifty

Ahaziah had no son.¹⁸ Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

2 Kings 2:1–9

¹ Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² And Elijah said to Elisha, “Please stay here, 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.

³ And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he said, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

⁴ 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

Deuteronomy 21:17

¹⁷ but he shall acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the unloved, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the firstfruits of his strength. The right of the firstborn is his.

2 Kings 2:10–11

¹⁰ And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” ¹¹ And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

Job 38:1

¹ Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

¹⁵ Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him. ¹⁶ And they said to him, “Behold now, there are with your servants fifty strong men. Please let them go and seek your master. It may be that the Spirit of the LORD has caught him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley.” And he said, “You shall not send.” ¹⁷ But when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, “Send.” They sent therefore fifty men. And for three days they sought him but did not find him. ¹⁸ And they came back to him while he was staying at Jericho, and he said to them, “Did I not say to you, ‘Do not go’?”

Malachi 4:5–6

⁵ “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to

¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.

Matthew 17:1–3

¹ And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Deuteronomy 34:5–6

⁵ So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, ⁶ and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day.

Matthew 17:4–9

⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents

here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.”⁵ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified.⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.”⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

2 Kings 2:8

⁸ Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

Exodus 14:21–22

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Deuteronomy 31:7–8

⁷ Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it. ⁸ It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Joshua 1:1–2

¹ After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, ² “Moses my servant is dead.

Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel.

Joshua 3:10–13

¹⁰ And Joshua said, “Here is how you shall know that the living God is among you and that he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Hivites, the Perizzites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, and the Jebusites. ¹¹ Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan. ¹² Now therefore take twelve men from the tribes of Israel, from each tribe a man. ¹³ And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap.”

Joshua 5:10–12

¹⁰ While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.

¹² And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Joshua = The Lord _____ .

Elisha = The Lord _____ .

Jesus = The Lord _____ .

Matthew 1:21

²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Luke 9:18–20

¹⁸ Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” ¹⁹ And they answered, “John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen.”

²⁰ Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered, “The Christ of God.”

Luke 9:51–56

⁵¹ When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him.

⁵³ But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.

⁵⁴ And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵ But he turned and

voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”

¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

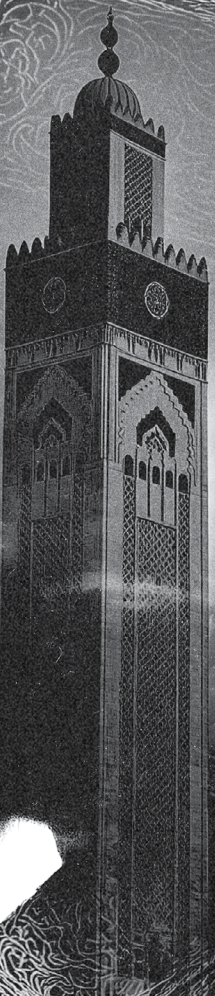
Revelation 7:9–12

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and

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ANSWER KEY

SESSION 01

p. 30–31 - worse, working, mysterious, worthy

p. 32–33 - relationship, no one

p. 36–37 - for, through, exalt

SESSION 02

p. 58–59 - powerless, unstoppable, intimacy, lame

p. 60–61 - risk-takers

p. 62–63 - impossible, praying, praising, proclaiming

SESSION 03

p. 86–87 - God, good, relentless, enough, honestly, faithfully, voice, Share

p. 88–89 - burden, loves

SESSION 03

p. 114–115 - saves, saves, saves

p. 116–117 - line

GLOSSARY

Ahab: a wicked king who ruled over the northern kingdom of Israel and was confronted by the prophet Elijah for his sin. Ahab led Israel into Baal worship and had a wicked wife named Jezebel.

Ahaziah: the king who succeeded Ahab and reigned over the northern kingdom of Israel from Samaria, its capital city. Like Ahab, Ahaziah was a wicked king.

Asa: the king who ruled over the southern kingdom of Judah when Ahab began his reign in the northern kingdom of Israel. Though Asa did not remove all the idolatrous places of worship in the southern kingdom, he was generally considered to be faithful to the Lord.

Asherah: a Canaanite fertility goddess whom God's people were constantly tempted to worship. Sometimes the term "Asherah" is used to refer to the poles where this goddess was worshipped (Judges 6:25).

Baal: the title for a Canaanite god who was believed to have authority over fertility and rain. The Lord demonstrated his superiority to Baal

by controlling the rain and providing for his people, yet Israel was often tempted to turn from the Lord to worship Baal and other false gods.

Baal-zebul: the god of Ekron, a Philistine city 25 miles west of Jerusalem. Ahaziah, king of the northern kingdom of Israel, called on Baal-zebul when he was sick. Baal-zebul means "lord of the flies."

Beersheba: a town on the southern frontier of the southern kingdom of Judah. Elijah fled to Beersheba when he was threatened by Jezebel.

Ekron: a Philistine city 25 miles west of Jerusalem where the false god Baal-zebul was worshipped.

Elijah: a prophet sent by the Lord to proclaim the word of the Lord to Ahab, a wicked king who ruled over the northern kingdom of Israel. God performed extraordinary miracles through Elijah, and Jesus himself spoke of Elijah's ministry (see Luke 4:25). Elijah was from Tishbe, a town in Gilead (1 Kings 17:1).

Elisha: the prophet who succeeded Elijah and served as his apprentice. As with Elijah, the Lord used Elisha to proclaim his word and perform great miracles in the accomplishment of his purposes. Elisha left everything to follow the Lord's call (1 Kings 19:20–21).

Hazael: the king of Syria whom the Lord told Elijah to anoint. Hazael murdered Ben-hadad, the previous king of Syria, in the days of Elisha the prophet (see 2 Kings 8:7–15). God used Hazael and others to bring about his purposes (1 Kings 19:15–17).

Horeb: this is the larger region where Mount Sinai (the mountain where Moses encountered God) was located; Mount Horeb can also be used as an alternate name for Mount Sinai. God sustained Elijah on Mount Horeb for forty days and forty nights, much like he had done with Moses.

Jehoshaphat: the king who succeeded Asa in the southern kingdom of Judah. Jehoshaphat reigned during the days of Ahaziah, the king who succeeded Ahab in the northern kingdom of Israel.

Jehu: a king who ruled over the northern kingdom of Israel. The Lord commanded Elijah to anoint Jehu, and the Lord used Jehu and others to bring about his purposes (1 Kings 19:15–17).

Jericho: a Canaanite city associated with foreign gods. Though God previously destroyed Jericho and commanded that it never be rebuilt (Joshua 6), King Ahab of Israel had the city of Jericho rebuilt.

Jerusalem: the capital city of Judah, the southern kingdom of God's people. God chose Jerusalem as the location where the temple was built under King Solomon (see beginning in 1 Kings 6).

Jeroboam: the first king of the northern kingdom of Israel. Jeroboam began his reign when the kingdom split in 930 BC following Solomon's reign. He led Israel to worship false gods and was eventually judged for his sin. Jeroboam is frequently identified as "the son of Nebat" (ex: 1 Kings 21:22).

Jezebel: the wife of King Ahab, a wicked king who ruled over the northern kingdom of Israel. Jezebel was from

the land of Sidon and helped turn Ahab's heart to the worship of Baal.

Jezreel: a city 17 miles east of Mount Carmel where king Ahab had a second royal palace. Jezebel was killed in Jezreel, just as the Lord foretold.

Jordan River: the major river in Palestine that figures prominently in the history of God's people. God provided miraculously for Elijah at the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan River (1 Kings 17:3).

Moab: a land (and people) frequently identified in Scripture as idolatrous and as an enemy of God's people. Chemosh was a god the Moabites worshipped. Moab rebelled against Israel after King Ahab's death.

Mount Carmel: a mountain ridge located on the border between Israel and Sidon. Mount Carmel served as a base camp for Baal worship, and it was the place where the Lord demonstrated that he, rather than Baal, was the one true God in the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:17–40).

Naboth: a man from the city of Jezreel whom Jezebel conspired to put to death unjustly because her husband, King Ahab, wanted the land where Naboth's vineyard was located. God judged Ahab and Jezebel for their sin against Naboth.

Northern Kingdom: the northern kingdom, often referred to as Israel, was made up of the ten tribes in the north of Israel, and its capital was Samaria. In 930 BC God's people split into two kingdoms (the northern kingdom and the southern kingdom) following the reign of Solomon, and the kings of the northern kingdom consistently rejected the Lord.

Obadiah: a prophet appointed by King Ahab who feared the Lord and rescued other prophets from the murderous actions of Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab. It is unlikely that the Obadiah referred to in 1 Kings is the same prophet referred to in the book of Obadiah (a book in the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament).

Omri: the father of King Ahab. Like Ahab, Omri was a wicked king over the northern kingdom of Israel.

Prophet: an individual who is sent by the Lord to proclaim the word of the Lord. Elijah was one of the most well-known prophets in Israel's history, and his prophetic ministry looked forward to John the Baptist who prepared the way for Christ's coming (Matthew 11:13–14; Malachi 4:5). Along with Moses, Elijah appeared when Jesus was transfigured on the mountain (Matthew 17:1–8).

Rehoboam: the first king of the southern kingdom of Judah. Rehoboam was the son of Solomon (and thus from David's line), and he began his reign when the kingdom split in 930 BC following Solomon's reign.

Remnant: a term that refers to a smaller portion out of a larger whole. Among those who identified with God's people outwardly in the Old Testament, God preserved a faithful remnant who genuinely trusted and obeyed him. In the days of Elijah, God preserved seven thousand in Israel who refused to bow to Baal (1 Kings 19:18).

Samaria: the capital city of Israel, the northern kingdom of God's people. An altar for Baal in the house of

Baal was built in Samaria under the reign of King Ahab (1 Kings 16:32).

Sidon: a prosperous Phoenician port located 23 miles north of Tyre. The Gentile city of Sidon is often mentioned alongside the city of Tyre, as the Old Testament prophets condemned Tyre and Sidon for their Baal worship and materialism.

Southern Kingdom: often referred to as Judah, was made up of the two southern tribes, and its capital was Jerusalem. Following the reign of Solomon, God's people were split between the southern kingdom and the northern kingdom in 930 BC.

Tyre: a Gentile city on the central coast of Phoenicia known for its commercial and shipping activity. Tyre was the capital of Phoenicia, and it is often linked with the city of Sidon in the Bible. The Old Testament prophets condemned Tyre and Sidon for their Baal worship and materialism.

Word of the Lord: God spoke through Elijah and other prophets, and the message he spoke to and through them is often referred to as "the

word of the Lord” (1 Kings 17:17).

Today we hear the word of the Lord through the words of Scripture.

Yahweh: the Hebrew word translated as “LORD” in the Old Testament. God revealed himself to Moses and to Israel as “Yahweh” when he rescued them from Egypt and made them his covenant people (see Exodus 3:13–17). (Note: Many English translations of the Bible put the letters of the word “LORD” in all caps to indicate that it is a translation of “Yahweh”).

Zarephath: a village between Sidon and Tyre (places outside of Israel) that was the home base for Baal worship. God sent Elijah to Zarephath so that he would be fed by a widow there; in turn, God made provision for the widow through Elijah, even raising her son from the dead.

SOURCES:

- The ESV Study Bible
- NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible
- The Bible Almanac: A Comprehensive Handbook of the People of the Bible and How They Lived, eds. J.I. Packer, Merrill C. Tenney, William White, Jr. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1980).
- Paul R. House, 1, 2 Kings, The New American Commentary, Vol. 8 (Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1995).

MAP



• Sidon

• Damascus

SYRIA

• Zarephath

• Tyre

Sea of Kinnereth

• Mt. Carmel

• Jezreel

Abel-meholah
(Elisha's hometown)

ISRAEL

(Northern Kingdom)

• Tishbe
(Elijah's hometown)

★ Samaria
• Tirzah

Jordan River

• Gilgal

• Bethel

• Jericho

• Ekron

• Jerusalem

JUDAH

(Southern Kingdom)

★ Hebron

Salt Sea

• Moab

• Beersheba

Wilderness

↙ *To Mt. Horeb (Sinai)*

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Lissa M. Wray Beal, *1 and 2 Kings*, Apollos Old Testament Commentary*

Dale Ralph Davis, *1 Kings: The Wisdom and the Folly*, Focus on the Bible Commentary*

Dale Ralph Davis, *2 Kings: The Power and the Fury*, Focus on the Bible Commentary*

Paul R. House, *1 and 2 Kings*, New American Commentary

Peter J. Leithart, *1 and 2 Kings*, Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible

John N. Oswalt, *1 and 2 Kings*, Evangelical Exegetical Commentary

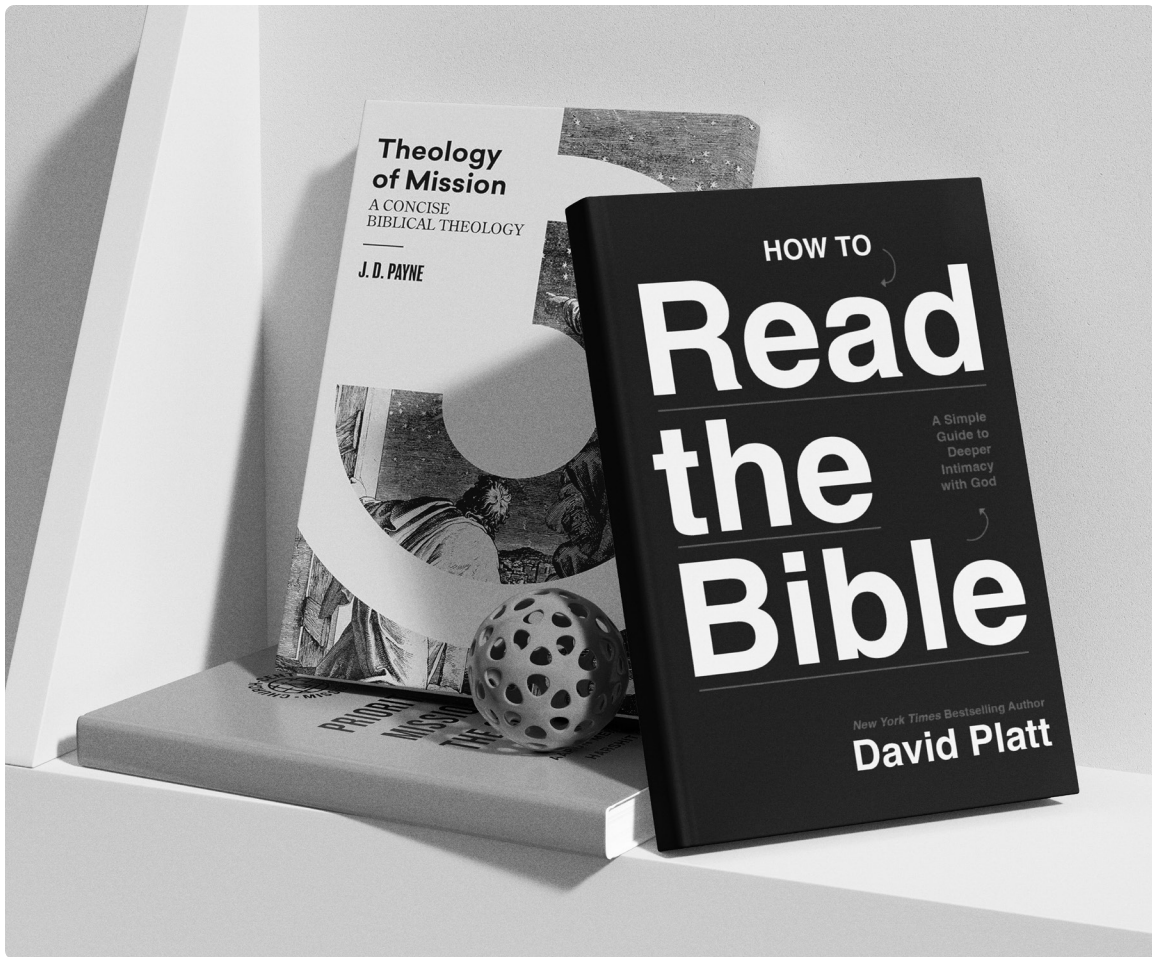
R.D. Patterson and Hermann J. Austel, *1 Kings*, Expositors Bible Commentary

Iain Provan, *1 and 2 Kings*, Understanding the Bible Commentary

Donald J. Wiseman, *1 and 2 Kings*, Tyndale Old Testament Commentary

*MOST RECOMMENDED

NOTE: NOT EVERYTHING CONTAINED IN THESE RESOURCES IS ENDORSED BY DAVID PLATT OR RADICAL. AS ALWAYS, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO COMPARE WHAT YOU READ WITH THE TEACHING OF SCRIPTURE, WHICH IS OUR ULTIMATE AUTHORITY.



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Years ago, David Platt taught and ministered to believers in underground house churches in Asia—brothers and sisters who gathered in secret, fully aware that discovery could cost them their freedom, their families, or their lives. Their faith was not shaped by comfort or convenience, but by a deep devotion to God and his Word.

Secret Church was born from these encounters. Each spring, believers around the world set aside one evening to open the Scriptures, pray for the persecuted church, and give sacrificially, longing to see Jesus made known in the places where he is least known.

