

## **THE PROPHET RETURNS TO HIS NATION**

We are currently studying one section of the Life of Elijah (1 Kings 17-19), which covers the ministry of Elijah during the reign of King Ahab, the 8<sup>th</sup> king of Israel from Jeroboam.

<p><b>Elijah's return to again confront King Ahab with the truth of God's word after 3 ½ years of Drought Crisis.</b></p>
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### **1. Elijah was a man of the word of God sent to confront people with God's absolute truths!**

(1 Kings 17:24) "You are a man of God and the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

But once delivered, do they have positive or negative volition to the Directive Will of God, and even then, is it primary or secondary volition? (Matt.21:28-32) [The parable of the two sons].

Elijah's responsibility is to deliver it in its complete truth as the Directive Will of God (Acts 26:12-19) The gospel presented in (Acts 27-29) - their choice to believe or not to believe - Paul before King Agrippa.

### **2. As we study the Life of Elijah, we understand the importance of the Directive Will of God in his ministry.**

The widow of Zarephath experienced it in (1 Kings 17:15-16) and expressed it in (1 Kings 17:24) - "Now I know that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

She came to believe that Elijah's God was the **Lord of the Living** (her daily bread) **and the Lord of the Dead!** (her son died and then was returned to her alive).

**We outlined the importance of the Directive Will of God in (1 Kings 17-18-19).**

**"The Word of the Lord came to him saying" (1 Kings 17:2)**

- **(1 Kings 17:1)** **Go to Ahab** and tell him that he must choose between Baal worship and God worship or be disciplined.
- **(1 Kings 17:2)** **Go to the Brook of Cherith** and ravens will feed you twice a day (logistical grace)
- **(1 Kings 17:8)** **Go to the widow of Zarephath** and she will physically provide for you and you will provide spiritually for her.
- **(1 Kings 18:1)** **Go and show yourself to Ahab** and tell him God will send rain. The hand of the Lord was on Elijah (18:46).

**"The word of the Lord came to him in a cave"**

- **(1 Kings 19:9)** **What are you doing here, Elijah?**
- **(1 Kings 19:11)** **Go forth and stand** on the mountain of the Lord.
- **(1 Kings 19:15)** **Go, anoint Hazael king** over Aram (19:15-19).

### 3. The Directive Will of God was given to Elijah for others!

Elijah delivered it faithfully no matter what the circumstances or persons, whether King Ahab or the witch of Zarephath!

Once it is delivered, the **Permissive Will** of God was (is) in play. The hearer of the Directive Will of God must accept and obey it or reject and disobey it.

- **If it is accepted**, it has the full weight of the Lord to bring it to fulfillment (1 Kings 18:46).
- **If it is rejected**, the **Over-Ruling Will of God** will work to bring the Directive Will back into focus.
  - God sent a 3 ½ year drought to bring a spiritual awakening to the Directive Will of God for the priest-nation.
  - God wanted King Ahab to lead a spiritual reformation with Elijah from Baal to God worship.
- As a prophet of God, the success of Elijah's ministry was NOT based upon whether they would accept or reject it, but rather upon his **DELIVERANCE OF THE DIRECTIVE WILL OF GOD**.

It is important that you understand another doctrinal truth that is associated with the **three classifications** of the Will of God:

- **Directive**
- **Permissive**
- **Over-Ruling**

### 4. There are three Categories of the Will of God that always work with the three Classifications of the Will of God:

- **Geographical**
- **Mental**
- **Operational**

**Leave Israel and go to a Brook at the beginning of a Drought - Directive Will (1Kings 17).**

- **Geographical**      Go to the Brook of Cherith until told differently.
- **Mental**              Ravens will feed you twice a day (logistical grace).
- **Operational**        Training in Faith Rest in the faith cycle (waiting side) (Ps.27:14) (completing side).

**Leave the Brook and go to Zarephath - 3 years into the drought (1 Kings 17).**

- **Geographical**      Zarephath to widow until told differently.
- **Mental**              She will feed you (logistical grace).
- **Operational**        Feed her spiritually (convert and disciple witch of Zarephath)

**Leave Zarephath and return to Israel and face King Ahab at end of drought (1 Kings 18).**

- **Geographical**      Return to Samaria, capital of North Kingdom.
- **Mental**              Show yourself to Ahab (what has he learned from discipline?) (Heb.12:8-12).
- **Operational**        Tell him God is about to send rain. God want Ahab to lead a spiritual reformation against Baal worship in priest-nation.

**GOD IS FAITHFUL!**  
(1 Cor.1:9) (1 Thess.5:24)