

HEAVY SHOWERS AT MOUNT CARMEL

This lesson text introduces a **second miracle** by the Lord God of Israel at Mt. Carmel.

King Ahab and Elijah returned from Brook Kishon to Mt. Carmel for different reasons (1 Kings 18:40-42).

- **Ahab** returned to eat and drink - and maybe think how to tell Jezebel about what happened to her prophets before returning home? (mommy isn't going to be happy!)
- **Elijah** returned to the top of Mt. Carmel for prayer regarding God sending rain after 3 ½ years of drought.

What is about to happen at Mt. Carmel will bring closure to the drought placed upon the Priest-Nation of Israel, opening the door to Divine Blessing. But for how long will be determined by Positive Volition verses Negative Volition.

This will be the second miracle at Mt. Carmel to take place - on this same day.

God's Divine Blessing didn't come because the prophets were killed, but because the ONLY Lord God of Israel sent the fire from heaven and set fire to the burnt offering of shadow Christology of Christ on the cross (1 Cor.5:7; Heb.10:1-2).

Elijah's Win at Mt. Carmel showed the people that the Lord God of Israel was greater and worthy of worship as their ONLY God.

Once again to make this point, God closed the drought and opened the blessing of His mercy, love, and grace by sending a heavy (mighty/ abundant) shower of rain!

<p>This lesson will study <u>three aspects</u> of the Heavy Showers at Mt. Carmel.</p>

1. Two great miracles at Mt. Carmel were SIGNS to the Priest-Nation of Israel.

(1 Cor.1:22) "For indeed **Jews ask for signs** and Greeks search for wisdom." (1 Cor.14:21-22).

Heavy showers were a **sign** that the drought had been removed because it served to spiritually awaken Israel to a need for spiritual reformation.

God wants idolatry removed from Israel and a return to worship HIM, the ONE and Only True Lord God of Israel.

He also wants a reuniting of the two kingdoms into ONE (Note that 12 stones were placed at the burnt offering altar of Christ (1 Kings 18:32).

Sometimes we don't pay attention to the importance of the Geographical Will of God in association with the Directive Will of God.

2. Remember the Directive Will of God always has a Geographical, Mental and Operational Will associated with the it.

The importance of four geographical locations was important to God's Directive Will regarding removing the drought and sending mighty showers of Divine Blessings: Zarephath, Mt. Carmel, (Mediterranean) Sea, and Jezreel.

Mt. Carmel was an important high point in the coastal mountain range to Mediterranean sea because of its panoramic view.

Mt. Carmel had become a historically sacred mountain for the ancient phallic cult of Baal worshippers. Elijah was familiar with its history as well as having spent time with the widow of Zarephath (the witch of necromancy and mistress) (1 Kings 17:9, 14, 17).

When Elijah left her, he went to begin another ministry that would take him to Mt. Carmel, some 40 miles away from Zarephath. When he left the widow for this ministry, he left an ambassador for Christ rather than a witch of Baal.

(1 Kings 17:24) Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth." (2 Cor. 5:17-21)

3. Before going to the top of Mt. Carmel to await the second miracle from the Lord God, Elijah told Ahab to listen for "the sound of the roar of a Heavy Shower at Mt. Carmel." (1 Kings 18:41).

Ahab was told **to listen for the sound of God's amazing grace** sending the second miracle - "A mighty shower of Divine Blessings."

These showers of Divine Blessing will be so great that they will cover neighboring nations such as Phoenicia and city of Zarephath (home of widow). A believer with newfound faith in God (IN Christ) experiencing **blessings by association and Jezebel the wrath of God.**

Now the issue will be how will the Israelites respond to God's Will?

Will they go back to the new norm of idolatry or turn from the old norm to worship the Lord God of Israel through Christ?

- Will they return to the norm of idolatrous worship and hearing heavy showers view it as more trouble?
- Or will they hear the sound and view it as a fresh new day of spiritual opportunity of God amazing grace?

Did they have a spiritual awakening during those 3 ½ years of drought, recognizing **the spiritual importance** of the **SOUND** (the roar of the coming rainstorm) and the **SIGHT** to view it as a **sign from their God?**

(1 Kings 18:43-44) But Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he crouched down on the earth and put his face between his knees. ⁴³He said to his servant,

Look towards the (Mediterranean) sea - what do you see?

Noting

Look again - look 7 times!

Behold, I see a cloud as small as a man's hand coming from the (Mediterranean) Sea.
I see the sky growing black and a strong wind and a heavy Shower.

Go tell Ahab.