

RUNNING WHEN NO ONE IS CHASING!

In our [last study](#), we covered Jezebel's threat made to Elijah:

(1 Kings 19:2) "So may **the gods do to me** and even more, **if I do not make** your life as the life of one of them (dead prophets) **by tomorrow (24hrs) about this time.**"

This was an Empty Threat since she doesn't have the legal nor spiritual authority to do it. However, her Empty Threat caused Elijah to run when no one was chasing.

<p>This lesson will study <u>five aspects</u> of Elijah Running When No One Was Chasing.</p>

1. Only God can authorize such an attack against a believer (Job 2:1-6).

(Job 2:6) "So the Lord said to Satan, 'Behold, he is in your power, only spare his life.'"

- **When this happened to Job, it resulted in a positive spiritual experience.**
- **When this happened to Paul in it was also a positive spiritual experience.**

(2 Cor.12:7) "Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a **thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment (kolaphizo/ p.a.subj.3ps/ to strike with the fist) me** - to keep me from exalting myself."

God was teaching Paul suffering grace - "**My grace is sufficient for you.**" (2 Cor.12:9a) (Power is perfected in weakness)

- **But when it happened to Elijah, it was negative spiritual experience. Why would Elijah run when no one was chasing?**

2. Elijah certainly knew biblically that Jezebel's threat was an Empty Powerless Threat.

It could not affect his life or the Plan of God without Divine Permission (Job 1-2). In addition to that it was based on hear-say from Ahab's report.

Her threat could only happen by Elijah's negative volition (NV) towards the Directive Will of God which was the Spiritual Reformation to the Priest-Nation of Israel from the Mt. Carmel victory.

Victory at Mt. Carmel showed that the fight was between God and Satan and NOT between Jezebel and Elijah (1 Cor.1:22) [a sign]. She was a distraction from the Directive Will of God for Elijah and Israel.

3. Remember the key issue in the Angelic Conflict (AC) is volition (free will).

There are two poles to volition:

- **Positive** (walk by faith) (2 Cor.5:7)
 - **Choosing to walk** by the power of the Holy Spirit (Gal.5:16-17)
- **Negative** (walk by sight or walk by flesh)

- **Negative volition** Conformity to the world.
- **Positive volition** Conformity to the Directive Will of God.

(Rom.12:2) “**Do not be conformed to this world** [Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus] (OMCD), **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind** [New Man Divine Viewpoint] (NMDV), **that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.**”

Beware when you think that OMCD could not exist in the life of spiritually mature believer. It did in lives of Elijah, Peter, and Jonah just to mention three.

4. They all had one thing in common, a volitional struggle with obedience to the Directive Will of God.

- Jesus told Peter that he would deny Jesus three times at the Last Supper (John 13:36-38).
- Jesus told Peter that Satan had gotten permission from God to shift him as wheat (Luke 22:31-32).
- Peter rejected this teaching regarding the Directive Will of God for his life.

(John 13:37) “Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, why can I not follow you right now? I will lay down my life for You.’” (Matt.26:69-75)

5. What caused Elijah to run when no one was chasing him?

(1 Kings 19:3) “And he was **afraid** (yare) and **arose** (qum) and **ran** (yalak)

NOTE: All three verbs are in a series of qal imperfect.

Cosmos (worldly) Fear (yare) [Phobos] was the motivational factor of running when no one was chasing.

We have a saying of Elijah’s type of cosmos fear - “**He was afraid of his own shadow.**”

Phobia - Flight because of fear (the fear of fear)

(Prov.29:25) “**The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the Lord will be exalted.**”

(1 Sam.17) **David and Goliath would be an example of Positive Volition to the Directive Will of God**

QUESTION: After being paralyzed by fear, what did he run FOR - - - not from?

(1 Kings 19:3) “And he was afraid and ran **for** his life (nephesh).”

(el) preposition “**for**” - used as a metaphor - “**in regard to**”