

## **TRANSITION OF NATIONAL PROPHETS**

This is our final lesson in the study of the Life of Elijah. It covered 1 Kings 17-19 of Elijah's call to bring a spiritual awakening and then a Spiritual Reformation to the Northern Kingdom of Israel under King Ahab

King Ahab was the 8<sup>th</sup> of 20 kings and reigned from 874-853 BC. (1 Kings 16:29-22:40)

The 1<sup>st</sup> King was Jeroboam (930 BC), and the 20<sup>th</sup> King was Hoshea (722 BC) as recorded in (2 Kings Ch.17)

Elijah, running for his life from Jezebel's empty threats, left a young prophet he had been mentoring at Beersheba (1 Kings 19:3).

At Mt. Horeb,

- Elijah was given a new assignment to anoint Hazael, king of Aram and Jehu, king of Israel and Elisha, a national prophet -**"in your place"** (1 Kings 19:15-18).
- Elijah was benched and Elisha promoted in the Plan of God. Elijah was benched but not kicked off the team. He will be given a special assignment, preparing Elisha to become a national prophet.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRANSITION OF NATIONAL PROPHETS</b><br/><b>which we will study by the following <u>four points</u>.</b></p> |
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**1. Elijah was instructed to anoint three new men to lead national Spiritual Reformation, (1 Kings 19:15-18); but he only got to anoint ONE - Elisha (1 Kings 19:19-21).**

- Elisha will anoint the other two during his ministry (2 Kings 8-10).
- Elisha's family and home were described earlier in (1 Kings 19:16)
  - "the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah" (western Manasseh)

There were five prominent national prophets sent by God to lead a Spiritual Reformation to the Northern kingdom: **Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Amos, and Hosea** dating from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> king over 150-year period. (874BC to 722BC) (2 Pet.3:9).

Not one of these national prophets were able to lead Israel to a Spiritual Reformation!

**Stephen tells us why in (Acts 7:51-60)**

(Acts 7:51) "You men who are stiff **necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit**; you are doing just **as your fathers did.**"

**2. Elijah shut down the faith cycle executing the Directive Will of God as national prophet (1 Kings 19:3).**

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| • <b>Cosmos</b>     | Worldly thinking    | (Matt.16:21-23) |
| • <b>Diabolicus</b> | The devil           | (1 John 5:19)   |
| • <b>Fear</b>       | Mental Attitude Sin | (Phobos)        |

(Heb.2:14-15) “Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death **He might render powerless him who had the power of death**, that is, **the devil**, and might **free those who through fear of death** were subject to slavery all their lives.”  
(Rev.2:10)

**Peter presented a good question for Elijah (1 Pet.3:13-15)?** “Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good?” (1 Kings 19:3-4, 9-10, 13-14)

**3. As a spiritually mature believer, Elijah is prepared for every spiritual test God would send his way. (1 Cor.10:11-13; 1 Pet.1:6-8; 4:12-19).**

(1 Pet.3:14-15) “And **do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled**, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.” (1 Pet.3:13-15; Heb.13:6)

(Rom.8:15-16) “For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. **For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again**, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, ‘Abba, Father!’” (Matt.10:28)

(Phil.1:29) But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. (USA)

**4. Elisha will be mentored by Elijah during the last years of Elijah’s life for the position of national prophet to lead a Spiritual Reformation (1 Kings 19:19-2 Kings 2:14).**

Elijah has been assigned also the responsibility of preparing the prophets for this Spiritual Reformation.