

The Life of Elijah

The prophet Elijah first appears on the scene while Ahab the king is reigning over the ten tribes of Israel at the same time as Asa was king of Judah. At that time Israel was split as a nation. Yah sent Elijah to King Ahab and the lost tribes to correct and warn them of their dire fate if they did not repent.

1 Kings 16:29~33 And in the thirty and eighth year of **Asa king of Judah** began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years. And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him. And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife **Jezebel** the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

Ahab, King of Israel, provoked Yah (God) in many ways that included marrying Jezebel, the queen worshipper of Baal. This is the setting that Elijah is given as a prophet of Yah. Let us begin here and discover what kind of man Elijah was, how Yah worked through him by His Holy Spirit, and what became of Elijah.

1 Kings 18:1~46 And it came to pass after many days, that the **word of the LORD** came to Elijah in the third year, saying, **Go**, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth. And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore famine in Samaria And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. (**Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly:** For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.) And Ahab said unto Obadiah, Go into the land, unto all fountains of water, and unto all brooks: peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts. So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself. And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art thou that my lord Elijah, And he answered him, I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here. And he said, What have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not. And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here. And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the **Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not**; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth. Was it not told my lord what I did when **Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD**, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD'S prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water? And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here: and he shall slay me. And Elijah said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely shew myself unto him to day. So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah. And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, **Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.** Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the **prophets of Baal** four hundred and fifty, and the **prophets of the groves** four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table. So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? **if** the LORD be God, follow him: **but** if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. Then said Elijah unto the people, **I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD**; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that

answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken. And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under. And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made. And it came to pass at noon, that **Elijah mocked them**, and said, **Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.** And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded. And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name: 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 measures of seed. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time. And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water. And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, **let it be known this day** that thou art God in Israel, **and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me...that this people may know** that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God. And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and **slew them** there. And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees, And 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. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not. And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel. **And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah;** and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

Yah has moved men in the past to serve him...to serve His will...to correct... to turn around those that are walking in error. Elijah is such a one who worked for the Lord and is recorded in the New Testament as a great prophet of old. It is hard to imagine that such a great man as Elijah had any fear having been imbued with the power of Yah behind him.

*What makes one great? In the eyes of mankind, one's accomplishments over others, creativity manifested in great works are held in high esteem, yet none of these can facilitate entry into the kingdom. In God's eyes...it's Yah's Holy Spirit, His power, working in us leading us to do His will that will realize our eternity within His kingdom. Yah's plan of salvation has given us one attribute that affords us much credit: **"OUR FAITH"**.... our action of our belief. All gifts to be performed are from Yah. Yet faith gives us the ability to access His grace while doing the works of Yah (God) in our life.*

Ephesians 2:8~10 For by grace are ye saved **through faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **unto good works**, which God hath before ordained **that we should walk in them.**

*The role of a prophet serves as a messenger from God, sent at a specific time and place to a specific group of people to heed His thoughts and instructions. Many times the words are those of correction and because our thoughts often differ from His will, His words are laced with warnings of wrath, punishments, curses, if in deed our sinning demeanor does not change. They are not the prophet's words, generated by his own power. The prophet only serves as a conduit with directions from Yah to repent. These prophets are called by our Lord to serve Him. They, of their own will, are not elevated to this position, but are called to serve in this capacity, just as one is called to lend a hand to help upon seeing the need. A good servant does not ask **why, how or where**, but responds to the calling as our Lord shows him; **"Going without Knowing."** Heb 11:8*

When any of us stop focusing on the calling and start looking at the situation around us we lose the focus of being His servant. We equate our needs equal to or exceeding in priority those of our Creator while forgetting we are sent to serve the will of Yah. Some of the character changes that occur from servant to self serving are:

*Taking credit for the power and the position that is given or felt by being the messenger, the instrument of correction, instead of the one being corrected. Boasting about one's position, pride in self. The reason you were used in the first place is because you were given "ears to hear;" hearing is translated in Hebrew as **action**. Not because you are any better than another, but because you are simple enough to be molded and used as a piece of clay, as a child, pliable, willing to answer the call. When we elevate ourselves, we in effect lower Christ to our level seeming to make our self His equal. Once in that mindset we look for our honor, praise etc...all things due Him, never us.*

*Leaving our own comfort to serve others should eclipse looking after one's own needs and how it will affect us. This would demonstrate the focus turning from outward concern for others, to individual self-serving. Only when we take the focus off of others do we see and are concerned with ourselves. When we lose focus, we also lose the power in which we were walking with namely; His Holy Spirit. We are left with oneself. Once self is present... so is fear evidencing the lack of Yah's power working in us. "Fear" is the opposite of "Faith." Fear is **"the void of faith"** verses Faith, **"the actions of your belief"***

Before continuing I must state that I feel ashamed to examine character faults of a servant of Yah's when I have so many faults of my own. But scripture is given for our admonishment, to show us how to become a faithful servant of Yah's being molded not to stumble over the littlest thing. He would not have shown us these things if we were not to utilize them for our good. Minor points at first glance, but careful examination of them reveal the reason for their fate.

1 Kings 18:21~22 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? **if** the LORD be God, follow him: **but** if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. Then said Elijah unto the people, **I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD**; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

1 Kings 18:27 And it came to pass at noon, that **Elijah mocked them**, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

1 Kings 18:36~37 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, **let it be known this day** that thou art God in Israel, **and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me...that this people may know** that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

Note how Elijah speaks to the people. He reiterates that he is the **“only prophet,”** the **only one** that has remained true to Yah, emphasizing that they are not faithful but should be **like him**. Also in his prayer to Yah he repeats; **“hear me, hear me,”** so that this people may know that **Yah only hears him with Elijah being Yah’s only servant**, who has accomplished all these needs at His request. Yet just moments earlier Elijah was met by Obadiah who himself is recorded as fearing the LORD greatly and who also saved 100 other prophets hiding them in two groups of fifty in a cave, feeding them with bread and water. Is Elijah the only faithful prophet left; is mankind void of righteousness apart from him alone?

In verse 27 Elijah **“mocked them”** saying: Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. I would not think that was done at the word of God, as Elijah said, **“all these at your word.”** Was he glorifying himself and his position while failing to give the glory to Yah? Is this the very same thing that happened to Moses?

Numbers 20: 7~12 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, **and speak ye unto the rock** before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink. And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, **Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?** And Moses lifted up his hand, and **with his rod he smote the rock twice:** and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also. And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, **Because ye believed me not, to sanctify ME in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.**

Notice how Moses also did a little self promoting and **mocking**, **“hear now you rebels; must WE fetch you water?”** That’s not what the Lord spoke to him with specific instructions in how to do it; he was to speak to the rock, not strike it. Yet the miracles happened anyway to complete the purpose, as it did with Elijah when fire came down consuming the offering showing spectacularly who indeed is God. The plan of Yah’s is still moving forward, while He personally mentor’s His elect on the side. Just as Moses lost his focus, the same thing happened to Elijah.

Elijah stood tall with the Lord at his side, but when the Spirit leaves him, Elijah finds himself alone running from the fear of man; his bravado abruptly vanishing! In 1 Kings Chapter 19, Jezebel threatens Elijah with the same fate that he brought upon the false prophets, death. In verse 3 it states that he **ran for his life**.

1 Kings 19:1~9 And Ahab told **Jezebel** all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, **So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.** And when he saw that, he arose, **and went for his life**, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: **and he requested for himself that he might die;** and said, **It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.** And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an **angel touched him**, and said unto him, Arise and eat. And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baked on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. And the **angel of the LORD** came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto **Horeb the mount of God.**

Verses 1~3 state the fear of Jezebel’s wrath coming upon him. Just as he had spoken to the prophets of Baal, he is now told of his fate by Jezebel. It’s ok to do Yah’s will as long as the same **does not come back** to bite us. How quickly our faith leaves us alone with **self**, our eyes wide with fear. Elijah, overcome by fear, runs for his life. Why? Because no longer was Elijah acting solely as **Yah’s messenger conveying Yah’s words**

*only, thus being protected by His power. Now perhaps he had done a little self promotion of self to the degree that he even mocked. Yet Christ never mocked his enemies, nor did any of His angels. He always exemplified a humble attitude as a model for our behavior to follow. As we deviate from **His way** using a different measure to judge others, the principle of judging now turns and condemns oneself.*

Matthew 7:1~6 Judge not, that ye be not judged. **For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.** And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

By the same degree you have been judging others in condemning them of their actions, so you will be judged and condemned by your actions with equal severity.

*In 1 Kg 19:4 Elijah wanted to give up his life and states; “he requested for himself that he might die; and said, **It is enough**; now, O LORD, take away my life; **for I am not better than my father’s.**” Notice, he sees himself as a **slave to fear**; that in the end Elijah feels no greater, better than his patriarch before him. He has been defeated by “**self**” through the lie of Satan that gives “**glory to man.**” At that moment the soul is void of Yah’s Holy Spirit, now alone one is faced with only self to overcome adversities. All is well when there is no trouble, but as problems arise...so also... **FEAR.** We cannot walk in the power of Yah, except we walk according to His will.*

1 Kings 19:9~21 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, **the word of the LORD came to him**, and he said unto him, **What doest thou here, Elijah?** And he said, **I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.** And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake 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: And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire **a still small voice.** And it was so, when Elijah **heard it**, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, **there came a voice** unto him, and said, **What doest thou here, Elijah?** And he said, **I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.** And the LORD said unto him, **Go**, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and **Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.** And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall **Elisha slay.** **Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.** So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again: **for what have I done to thee?** And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

In verses 9~12, while being questioned by Yah **“What do you hear?”** Elijah cannot hear or see past himself and gives responses that justify his position: *“I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; **and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.**”* These statements do not seem to be the answer that God was looking for.

Yah explains to Elijah that He does not have to work through some great outward sign to prove who He is. God does not reveal Himself to man in the form of a great wind, or earthquake or of fire, **but instead chooses a still small voice** in which He is found and seen. Great acts of miracles are for those that do not believe, as speaking in tongues and miracles, but the **still small voice** is for those that are *“attentive to His words,”* those having His Holy Spirit who are living by it as revealed in the scriptures.

In verses 13~14, Yah asks again after showing Himself to Elijah as being in the **still small voice** **“what do you hear?”** Elijah repeats his position, the justification of self, *“I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; **and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.**”*

Yah’s conclusion in verses 15~16 is very clear: **“GO...Elisha, the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.”** In thy room, meaning in your place, taking over your position as Yah’s prophet. Yah cannot use someone mightily who cannot hear him when He speaks. To be a prophet is much more than being a disciple. A disciple is a follower of *“The Way”* while the prophet, apostle, evangelist, pastor and teacher are those sent by Yah to accomplish a specific task. One must first be able to hear the message and comply as revealed by Yah in the Holy Scriptures before sharing the message with mankind.

Ephesians 4:11~12 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

In 1 Kings 19:18 Yah shows Elijah that he was never alone... for unknown to Elijah, were 7,000 quiet people that had *“ears to hear.”* With the Holy Spirit at his side, and **“IF”** Elijah had his *“ears to hear”* the words of Yah, he would then not need a great army to win or ridicule or mock his enemy... **for He knows who He is, and who lives within him; Yah knows those that are His. They need not boast!**

Elijah and Moses were two of the greatest men of God. When speaking of them and discussing their errors, it only shows that their greatness came from the Spirit working in them. They, like us, were but men and were still being refined to be even greater, more directed into the likeness of Christ. Moses took credit for the power of God at Meribah (Nu 20:1~13) and was refused access into the Promised Land because of it. Elijah was told to pass the mantel over to Elisha. Could it be that these messengers lost their focus and their reward because they could not resist the urge to promote themselves? Both great men ended their mighty ministries failing Yah, yet Yah’s plan for salvation still went forward and still does. Looking back further, Lucifer the anointed cherub; was perfect in his ways from the day that he was created, till iniquity was found in him Ezekiel 28:11~19. He also lost his position as he promoted self over Yah.

Romans 7:17 & 24~25 Now then it is no more I that do it, **but sin that dwelleth in me.** O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

2 Kings 1:1~9 Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease. 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 unto

them, **Is it not because there is not a God in Israel**, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? Now therefore thus saith the LORD, **Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. And Elijah departed.** And when the messengers turned back unto him, he said unto them, Why are ye now turned back? And they said unto him, There came a man up to meet us, and said unto us, Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, **Is it not because there is not a God in Israel**, that thou sendest to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? therefore thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, **but shalt surely die.** And he said unto them, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words? And they answered him, **He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins.** And he said, It is **Elijah** the Tishbite.

Elijah once again is used by our Lord to be a messenger. Yet in this instance is Elijah walking in power by the Holy Spirit, or is he fearful? Jezebel (1Kings 19:1) has sworn to kill him and is still alive and is noted as seeking him in the scriptures continuing up to 2 Kings 9:30.

In 2 Kings 1: 4 Elijah gives his message then departs. And in verse 8 his appearance is very humble, similar to that of John the Baptist, “an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins.”

Matthew 3:1~4 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet **Elijah**, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. And the same John had his raiment of **camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins;** and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

Once again, through our actions come the direct rewards we receive. Notice the action of King Ahaziah as he petitions a false god for healing. He was thus rewarded with what false security can give...death.

2 Kings 1:9~18 Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on the top of an hill. And he spake unto him, **Thou man of God**, the king hath said, Come down. And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, **If I be a man of God**, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, **O man of God**, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly. And Elijah answered and said unto them, **If I be a man of God**, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, **O man of God**, I pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight. Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burnt up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight. And the angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him: **be not afraid of him.** And he arose, and went down with him unto the king. And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron, is it not **because there is no God in Israel to enquire of his word? therefore thou shalt not come down off that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.** So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son. Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

*In verses 9~14 Elijah's presence is requested by King Ahaziah, the son of Ahab and Jezebel. Yet, Jezebel, the queen mother, is still alive, with Elijah remaining **fearful** of her promise to kill him. A captain of the Kings guard with his fifty soldiers is sent to Elijah twice to fetch him to King Ahaziah. Elijah addresses the*

first captain of the Kings guard with a question, **“If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty”?**

Was Elijah’s question actually addressed to the captain of the fifty soldiers? Was he asking the captain whether he was and still is considered **“a man of God”** walking in the power of Yah with nothing to **fear**? **“NO”** the question specifically was being directed to God. Am I your servant Lord? Do you Lord, still love me, protect me and empower me? Also note what sign was asked both times by Elijah to prove to himself, **“Yah is with me.”** It was the same awesome fire sign shown to the nations of Israel earlier that the one true God rules: **“Fire coming down from heaven to consume”** (1Kings 18), the sign given by God through Elijah when he was truly walking in the power of Yah’s Holy Spirit.

“IF I be a man of God” “IF”... is the question? For if I be Yah’s, there is nothing to fear but Yah.

Matthew 10:28 And **fear not** them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather **fear him** which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

The answer to Elijah’s fear lies in 2 Kings 1:15 where Yah tells him; **“be not afraid of him.”** It was only after Yah answered both of his test questions with a physical, overwhelming response (consuming fire) confirming, **“yes you are a man of God,”** followed by speaking to him, **“be not afraid go with them,”** does Elijah believe and go. Is not a similar mindset situation described in the New Testament regarding, John the Baptist coming in the power of Elijah’s message?

Matthew 11:1~19 reveals that John the Baptist was the Elijah to come to bring Yah’s message to Israel. In verse 6 Yahshua states, **“blessed is he who is not offended in Him.”** Offended here means; **losing faith** in Him, falling away because of Him during the trials that those of faith shine and grow through. Surely, John must have felt the **fear** of men as he endured prolonged imprisonment, yet he boldly preached the word of truth at great physical expense. So stated, in verse 11: **“Verily I say unto you, among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”** This is also recorded in (Luke 3:1~, Matthew 3:1~ and Luke 7:18~)

So we also... **IF** we walk like John, Elijah, Moses, and others that went before us as examples can we be numbered with the great, as we walk in His power, by His Holy Spirit, and believe not the lie and fall to **fear**, following the ruler of doubt, disbelief, hesitation, uncertainty ...Satan.

Had **fear** gotten to Elijah? One of the greatest of men written of in scripture had fallen to **fear** after handling the Spirit of Yah so mightily. Could it be the same for us, when the tables are turned and we are faced with the dread of physical pain? Will we cower? We preach to others ...the wrath that awaits them, when leaving the presence of Yah. **Fear** is real and becomes a reality when we take our eyes off the goal falling into the realm of Satan. Satan loves our **fear**. It is also a great tool of Yah’s to train us...**IF** we know and understand what is happening in our lives as we fail the trial. For nothing happens by chance, all events in our lives have a purpose and a meaning for those that have **“ears to hear and eyes to see.”**

Matthew 14:22 ~33 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night **Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.** And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they **cried out for fear.** But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; **be not afraid.** And Peter answered him and said, Lord, **if it be thou,** bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. **But** when he saw the wind boisterous, **he was afraid;** and beginning to sink, he

cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, **O thou of little faith**, wherefore didst thou **doubt**? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

Fear, doubt, misgiving, disbelief, skepticism, apprehension, reluctance, all are “Void of Faith” – void of action. Faith is – “the action of your belief”.

What contrast Elijah must have felt! How the feeling of His great power... “The Holy Spirit of Yah” working in Elijah for many years now having vanished, left him void of power, transforming him into a fearful coward. So we speculate, such wonderment over this change could well have been within Elijah’s thoughts, as he, in obedience to Yah, passed the mantle over to Elisha as stated in (1 Kg19:20).

Elijah said to Elisha “what have I done to you?” Elijah saw that this job of being a prophet of God is a selfless work always focused on the Father’s business and not one’s own. No jabbing, mocking or frolicking with the enemies of Yah. For a good soldier does not get involved with the affairs of the world, or uses the character of Satan, but only Yah’s... love. Elijah now has time to reflect what that cost entailed as he installs Elisha.

Without Yah in your life, you must fight your own battle and deal with your own short comings. With Yah (God), your battles are His, for you are His servant and if you are to be effective, God will eliminate any obstacle that prevents you from accomplishing His will. Sometimes that obstacle is “self”, the other god in our lives. Sometimes it is our sin, the natural or carnal character, etc...that prevents us from being effective. You cannot build a house on sand, or with a broken hammer! Yah must have effective tools and build on fertile soil to do His work.

How we have handled the past is a prelude to how we will deal with the future unless we change.

After Elijah passed the mantle over to Elisha, after being taken away in the whirlwind as found in 2 Kings 2:11, he is protected by God from man. Notice carefully Elijah is seen once again appearing doing the will of Yah, in 2 Chronicles 21:12~15, some 8 years after being taken up in a whirlwind. He did not receive the promise, or enter into heaven, for all will receive that promise collectively. We all must wait together for that promise to become fulfilled as stated in Hebrews 11.

John 16:28~33 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God. Jesus answered them, **Do ye now believe?** Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: **and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.** These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: **but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**

*Our example from Christ: You and I are not alone when Christ and the Father live within us. Yahshua as a human being overcame the world of **fear** giving us unbridled hope and confidence that we may also overcome, gaining eternal life with Him. **Be of good cheer and have Faith: the action of your belief.***

Fear not that your life shall come to an end, but rather fear, that up to now, it never had a beginning