

“Word of the Lord through Elijah”

1 Kings 17

I. The backdrop of when Elijah come on the scene:

1 Kings 16:29–33 — ²⁹ Now Ahab the son of Omri became king over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. ³⁰ Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord more than all who were before him. ³¹ It came about, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went to serve Baal and worshiped him. ³² So he erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal which he built in Samaria. ³³ Ahab also made the Asherah. Thus Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him.”

A. What things stand out in the Northern Kingdom of Israel?

1. About its leaders – v30
2. About its practices – v31-32
3. About its relationship with God -v33

II. Appearance of Elijah:

1 Kings 17:1 — ¹ Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.””

A. What was consequence for the evil leadership of that nation?

1. Answer: _____
2. What are some evils in which our leaders today are leading us into?
 - a. _____
3. What would be the consequences for Christians who vote for these kinds of leaders?

B. What was the consequence that fell on God’s servants? V2-4

1 Kings 17:2–4 — ² The word of the Lord came to him, saying, ³ “Go away from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁴ “It shall be that you will drink of the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to provide for you there.””

1. Answer:
 - a. V2 - They were guided by the _____.
 - b. V3 -They had to leave their _____ and face _____.
 - c. V4 -They had to trust on the _____.
2. What did God teach Elijah concerning the ravens? (See v6) _____
3. Application: What lesson can we take with us when Lord calls us to a different place? _____

III. Elijah is sent to the Widow:

1 Kings 17:8-9 — ⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁹ “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.””

A. What might Elijah be concluding about a foreign widow who was to provide for him?

B. How did Elijah’s perspective change about the widow when he met her?

1 Kings 17:10-12 — ¹⁰ So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, “Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink.” ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand.” ¹² But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die.””

1. **v10 & 12** - Elijah saw that this widow was _____.

2. **v10-11** - Elijah tested the widow to see if _____.

C. Observation: God often chooses those who have a good heart to become instruments of His.

D. Question: How do you know when God is calling you to help someone?

1. **Titus 3:14**— “ Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.”