

“Victor of Elijah Over His Enemies”

2 Kings 1:9-15

I. Elijah trusts God to protect him from his enemies - 2 Kings 1:9–10 — ⁹ Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him, and behold, he was sitting on the top of the hill. And he said to him, “O man of God, the king says, ‘Come down.’ ” ¹⁰ Elijah replied to the captain of fifty, “If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty.” Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

A. How did Elijah react differently with this king than he did with Jezebel? (see 1Kings 19:2-3)

B. What lesson did Elijah learn from the first encounter that he applied hear?

1. Who sent Elijah to deliver the harsh message to King Ahaziah? (**2Kings 1:3**)

2. Who was responsible to protect Elijah from the consequences?

C. Application: When God sends his servants, God takes on the responsibility to protect them until He calls them home.

1. What are areas in which God might send us?

II. King Ahaziah repeats his mistake - 2 Kings 1:11–12 — ¹¹ So he again sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he said to him, “O man of God, thus says the king, ‘Come down quickly.’ ” ¹² Elijah replied to them, “If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty.” Then the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

A. Why might this Captain think that He would be successful in arresting Elijah?

1. “Come down quickly” – communicates forcefulness and intimidation.

2. Have you every repeated doing the same thing that did not work? What?

III. The 3rd Captain fears the Lord God - 2 Kings 1:13–18 — ¹³ So he again sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. When the third captain of fifty went up, he came and bowed down on his knees before Elijah, and begged him and said to him, “O man of God, please let my life and the lives of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight. ” ¹⁴ “Behold fire came down from heaven and consumed the first two captains of fifty with their fifties; but now let my life be precious in your sight.” ¹⁵ The angel of the Lord said to Elijah, “Go down with him; do not be afraid of him.” So he arose and went down with him to the king.

A. What did this last captain do differently that made his mission successful?

B. What are the proper elements for requesting compassion from God?

1. He bowed down on his knees -**v13a**.

2. He begged for his life and those under his charge -**v13b**.

3. He confessed that Elijah had absolute power and authority over himself -**v14**.

C. Was Elijah’s fear of going with Captains appropriate for a man of God -v15? Why?

1. When is it proper to have fear? **Deuteronomy 10:12**

2. When is it improper to be afraid?