

Elijah's Test

I Kings 19:1-4

And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.
² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."
³ And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And **he prayed that he might die**, and said, "**It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life**, for I am no better than my fathers!"

Elijah's 'resume'

- Called for drought – "it will not rain except at my word"
- Raised a young man from the dead
- Called down fire from heaven, brought all Israel back to God.
- Killed the 450 prophets of Baal

Rooted in the demonic.

- Spirit of Jezebel.
- Jezebel is mentioned by Jesus in a message in the New Testament to one of the churches in Revelation.

There is always a Satanic interpretation when you hit a rough patch.

- Car or appliance breaks; unexpected expenses – *Why does this always happen to me?*
- Laid off at work
- The loss of a spouse
- Hit a wall financially
- Sometimes there's a lesson to be learned.
- Many times, it's just an attack by the enemy.
- *Life is not over!*

One of God's goals is to get us to quit defaulting to pessimism.

- The 2 spies versus the 10 spies. The majority describes worst case scenario.
- How would you like to be one of the disciples who freaked out during the storm (with Jesus in the boat)?
- It's dishonoring to Him!
- ***Why are we so vulnerable to this?***
 - Filter of the past –
 - ***"...Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!" (I Kings 19:4)***
 - Some of you are letting the voice and example of 'your fathers' override God's voice.

How do you fight the enemy, and comeback?

1. Rehearse the goodness of God

- All Elijah had to do was look back to yesterday!

2. Put it into perspective

Psalm 2:1-4

¹ Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? ² The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, ³ "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." ⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision.

3. Spend time with God

- Hear HIS voice
- Get His marching orders
- I HAVE PURPOSE FOR YOU!
- Go forty days – there's much left for you to do
- God continued to use Elijah in powerful ways after this.
- Elijah would later appear on the mount with Moses and Jesus!

Response

- Press into God, spend time with Him, and hear His still, small voice.
- Rehearse the faithfulness of God in times past.
- If you can't recall anything, you need to ask, "Do I have a relationship?"