

THE LIFE OF ELIJAH
"Standing In The Shadow of God"
1 Kings 17:17-24

INTRODUCTION:

1. The goal of this message is that we long to go deeper and experience the supernatural.
2. Hebrews 11 which is the O.T. Hall of Faith.
 - a) Here we see a list of faithful men and women.
 - 1) **Vs 1-3**
 - 2) **Vs 4-34**
 - 3) Now **Vs 35** where God has Elijah's faith in mind
 - b) God brought about this miracle using Elijah
3. What we need to remember is that God specializes in impossible situations.
 - a) God does what we cannot do.
 - 1) **Jeremiah 32:17**
 - 2) **Jeremiah 32:27**
 - 3) **Luke 1:37**
 - 4) **Luke 18:27**
4. Sometimes God acts on His own to accomplish the impossible.
 - a) Creation of the universe - ex nihilo
 - b) When He raised Jesus from the dead, there was no one but God.
5. **1 Kings 17**
 - a) **Vs 17a**
 - 1) **"After this"**
 - b) Cf. Vs 1, 2-3, 7, 8; 13-16
6. An Observation
 - a) Just because you have victory yesterday doesn't mean you won't experience a TRIAL TODAY.

I. EXPERIENCING TRAGEDY

A. A DEATH OCCURRED

1. **Vs 17b**
 - a) **"the son of the woman...became ill."**

2. Vs 17c

a) WOW!!! The boy died.

3. Vs 18 WOW

B. THE PAIN IS DEEP

1. Vs 18

2. This woman hurt so bad that she began to lash out and blame someone.

3. Vs 14

a) God miraculously provided food each day

4. THIS WOMAN WITNESSED A MIRACLE

5. Vs 18

a) She identified him as a "Man of God" because of what she had witnessed.

6. Vs 18b

a) BUT now she was so grief stricken she thinks her past sin is to blame!!!

II. A COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

1. Vs 19

a) 'And he said to her, "*Give me your son*"

2. Elijah stands patiently and quietly and does not defend himself.

3. Elijah said "*Give me your pain*"

a) "*Give me your burden*"

b) WOW!!! Elijah said "*give me the thing that is crushing your faith right now!!*"

4. **Very Important:** Elijah didn't give her a sermon!!!

a) He didn't give her the attributes of God.

5. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Everybody needs somebody in their life who **CARES ENOUGH** to pick up their **BURDEN** that is too heavy to carry alone.

6. *Galatians 6:1-5*

7. **HUGE** - *Elijah simply asks her to place her burden in his arms!!*

8. We have **2 extremes** in Christianity:

- a) People who have burdens but won't allow anybody to help them.
- b) And People who are too selfish to care.

9. **THERE ARE TIMES IT FEELS LIKE GOD HAS PUT US IN A VISE AND KEEPS SQUEEZING** and we feel the pain and wonder what in the world is God doing.

- a) And as we are squeezed we walk closer and closer to the Lord...
- b) ...And the tests keep coming.
- c) **AND ELIJAH DOESN'T WAVER**

10. *Psalm 91:1-4*

11. Elijah stands tall and silent in the Shadow of God, grounded in faith.

- a) Elijah is confident in God's Power

12. *Vs 19*

- a) *"and carried him up into the upper chamber and laid him on his own bed"*

III. INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR THE WEAK

1. *Vs 20*

- a) *"and he cried to the LORD"*

2. **WOW!!!** Elijah throws the **challenge flag!!!**

3. There are times when people hurt so bad that they Just can't pray!!!

4. **VERY IMPORTANT:** It is OK to question God....to throw the challenge flag!!

5. *Exodus 14:11*

IV. BELIEVING FOR A MIRACLE

1. *Vs 21*

2. What in the world is Elijah doing???

- a) The Number 3 in the Bible has significance!!
 - 1) Trinity
 - 2) Restoration - **Matthew 12:40**
 - 3) Resurrection - 3 days in the tomb

3. UP TO THIS POINT THERE HAS BEEN NO RESURRECTION IN THE BIBLE

- a) There is no scriptural precedence for a resurrection.

4. Vs 21

- a) Face to face
- b) Arms to arms
- c) Legs to legs

5. He stretched himself out 3 times.

6. ELIJAH *"Lord I'm trusting you for a miracle"*

- a) *"Lord do what I cannot do"*
 - b) *"Lord the boy has no life...so take some of my life...my breath."*
 - 1) *"Use my breath to bring this boy life"*
 - 2) *"Take from me what the boy needs"*

7. Vs 21

- a) *"Let the child's life return to him"*

CONCLUSION:

1. Vs 22

2. Vs 23

- a) To God be the glory!!!

3. How awesome it is to watch God miraculously work things out!!!

4. Vs 24

- a) When the woman's burden was healed she didn't see Elijah, she saw God.