

DEALING WITH A DEPRESSED PROPHET

I Kings 19

Let's see how a comforting God interacts with His crumbling worker.

I. ELIJAH'S DESPERATION

A. HE RUNS (1-3)

1. To Jezreel (18:46)
2. From Jezebel

B. HE GIVES UP (4-8)

1. Isolating himself
2. Hosting a pity party
3. Sleeping

C. HE COMPLAINS (10)

- To the dissatisfied, everything appears desperate!

1. By focusing on the past rather than the present
2. By comparing himself with others
3. By coming to wrong conclusions
 - a. I alone am left!
 - b. The children of Israel are seeking my life!

D. HE STIFFENS (14)

1. Obstinate: Still complaining
2. Evasive: Not answering God
3. Hard: Still no repentance but rather a justification for his sin.

II. GOD'S INTERVENTION

A. PROVISION (5-8)

1. Unanswered prayer
2. An angel: God would not leave him alone
3. Food and water: Including warm bread! (v.6)
4. Sleep: God allowed this weary man to rest
5. Miraculous strength (8)

Over please >

B. INTERACTION (9-13)

1. A personal probe (9)
2. A meeting invitation (11-13)
3. A second inquiry (13)

C. DIRECTION (15-17)

1. Anoint two kings and a prophet (15-16) > Get back to work!
2. Rest assured (17) > The rebels you have mentioned will be judged

D. ENCOURAGEMENT (18)

1. Oh, by-the-way, you are not alone!
2. God gives Elijah a renewed perspective that directs his eyes off of himself

III. ONGOING CONSEQUENCES

- Though God walked with Elijah through the valley, his sin had consequences

A. FOR ISRAEL

1. Revival was squelched
2. Rulers were retained

B. FOR ELIJAH

1. His sin is not dismissed
2. He awkwardly anoints his replacement (19-21)
3. Others will finish what he started

IV. PERSONAL APPLICATION**A. THE SITUATION**

- Elijah was a man like us (see James 5:17)

1. Difficulty: Someone threatens or intimidates us
2. Despair: We run and rant
3. Depression: We pray for death
4. Defeat: We don't accomplish all that we could

B. SOME QUESTIONS

1. What do you expect God to do?
2. Have you sensed God's presence and provisions?
3. Can a depressed and despondent person still be used of God?
4. Are you ever truly alone?

CONCLUSION:

A faithful God reaches out to faulty people. Let us praise Him for His patience and grace.

Feel free to use these notes for personal study.

If you wish to use them for any other purpose please seek permission from Pastor Circle.