

1 KINGS 18:5-19 "ELIJAHU IS HERE!"

- **Ahab** – an evil King bent on pleasing his wicked wife instead of the Lord.
- **Obadiah** – a faithful man working in an evil environment.
 - **Spurgeon:** *“Account for it how you may, it is a singular circumstance that in the center of rebellion against God there was one whose devotion to God was intense and distinguished. As it is horrible to find a Judas among the apostles, so it is grand to discover an Obadiah among Ahab’s courtiers. What grace must have been at work to maintain such a fire in the midst of the sea, such godliness in the midst of the vilest iniquity!”*
 - **He has gone out to hide 100 prophets of the Gospel**
1 Kings 18:4 For so it was, while **Jezebel massacred the prophets of the LORD**, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)
 - He must have had help to feed each of these twenty caves every day and still do his duties to Ahab.
 - Who does a Pastor trust to help him do what he believes God has told them to do, without question and without breaking a confidence?
 - Elders
- **Elijahu** – a prophet injected into the scene for a showdown with Ahab, Jezebel, and Baal.
 - **This great Prophet comes when the time is at an end**
 - **Then and soon to come**

The King refuses to see that it is his own failed policies that is killing Israel

- He has been surrounded by “YES” men
- Prophets that tell him what he wants to hear.

Ahab sees **Elijahu** as the enemy of the kingdom and the total reason Baal hasn’t brought rain.

5 And Ahab had said to Obadiah, “Go into the land to all the springs of water and to all the brooks; perhaps we may find grass to keep the horses and mules alive, so that we will not have to kill any livestock.”

- “You see, I had to kill a bunch of Jehovah’s prophets because my wife doesn’t like them.”
 - We value the livestock above the people of God.
 - We value my needs above the Commandments of the Lord
 - Doesn’t God want me to be happy?

6 So they divided the land between them to explore it;

Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

7 Now as Obadiah was on his way, suddenly Elijahu met him; and he recognized him, and fell on his face, and said, "Is that you, my lord Elijahu?"

8 And Elijahu answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your master, '**Elijahu is here.**' "

- Ahab trusted Obadiah
 - He trusted that he would report where water and grass could be found
 - This would be very difficult but not in conflict with God's commandments.
- God trusted Obadiah
 - God trusted that he would do EXACTLY what Elijahu told him to do.
- Every Passover each Jewish family longs to hear those words
 - Place setting at each Passover meal for Elijahu
- We long for his appearing as well.
 - John the Baptist came in the "Spirit of Elijahu" to announce the coming of Messiah
- We believe Elijahu will come personally to announce the soon RETURN of Messiah

Luke 1:17 He (John) will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

9 So Obadiah said, "How have I sinned, that you are delivering your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?"

10 As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you.

11 And now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Elijah is here" '!

- Elijahu: I'm fresh out of Bible College – I'm ready to go!
 - I have graduated from the University of Brook Cherith, and eaten the foul food of the unclean birds!
 - God tested his perseverance – to stick to God's plan
 - God tested his willingness to do His will

12 And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of the LORD will carry you to a place I do not know; so when I go and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will kill me. But I your servant have feared the LORD from my youth.

- **Apparently Elijahu was known for just traveling great distances in an instant.**
 - You disappeared after you told the King that it would not rain!
 - The Spirit carry's you away to all kinds of places!

13 Was it not reported to my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD, how I hid one hundred men of the LORD's prophets, fifty to a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

14 And now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Elijah is here." ' He will kill me!"

15 Then Elijah said, "As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely present myself to him today."

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

- **"Before Whom I stand"**

- You are always standing before the **LORD of hosts**
 - **BTW – an ancient Hebrew term for Messiah!**
- **You cannot escape His presence**

Hebrews 13:5–6

5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

6 So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

17 Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, **"Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"**

18 And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, **in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and have followed the Baals.**

- **In our Secular society – the Christians are the "troublers" of America**

- Our Nation has forsaken the commandments of the Lord – and there's no turning back now!
We have spent our way into a Black Hole that has sucked our Nation dry.
- The President, the House, the Congress have all forsaken the commandments of the Lord.
- Our own County Supervisors support a company that aborts, kills and dismembers babies for profit!

- **Forsaken the law of God**

- **Following the Baalim**

19 Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

- **850 false prophets – constituting "all of Israel"**
 - 450 prophets of the Baalim
 - 400 prophets of Asherah (Easter)
- **All because God had had enough!**

1 Kings 18:36 And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word.

Is there a point where God has had enough of your sin?

Romans 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, **not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?**