

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Was Ahab's sin a pre-planned transgression against God?
2. Why does God sometimes bring swift judgment? How does He usually treat sinners today?
3. We know how God worked with the widow. Does He ever work with men today in a similar way? Why?

SUMMARY:

“And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord which He spake by Elijah.” (1 Kings 17:16) How typical this is in the provisions of the Lord for his children. It is His will that we return to Him often for instruction, admonition, comfort and fellowship. He promises us strength for the day, guidance for the next step and provisions for our next spiritual meal. It is this sort of relationship that strengthens faith. It would have been no test of faith for the widow to give the prophet a meal out of her abundance. It would have been no test had God immediately filled her storehouse full to overflowing. And it is no test of faith for God to outline His complete plan for our lives and to show us why He is doing everything. It becomes a strengthening to our faith to take the next step because He directs, and in the belief that He will look out for our interests.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #5

April 29, 2018

Second Quarter

ELIJAH, GOD'S PROPHET

LESSON TEXT: *1 Kings 16:28-34; 17:1-24*

LESSON SETTING: Ahab's accession over Israel in Samaria

TIME: Approximately 930 B.C.

I. THE NATION'S IDOLATRY. 1 Kings 16:28-34

- A. Ahab More Evil (vs. 30)
- B. Deliberate Sin (vs. 31)
- C. Idol Worship Set Up (vs. 32)
- D. Presumption against God (vs. 34) (see Joshua 6:26)

II. PROPHET'S PRONOUNCEMENT. 1 Kings 17:1

- A. God's Judgment (vs. 1) Exodus 9:10; 2 Samuel 24:15; Acts 12:23

III. GOD'S PROVISION. 1 Kings 17:2-14

- A. God Directs (vs. 9) Genesis 31:3; Joshua 1:2
- B. God Supplies (vs. 14) Deuteronomy 2:7; 1 Kings 19:6; Matthew 14:20

IV. THE WIDOW'S REWARD. 1 Kings 17:15-24

- A. Reward for Obedience (vs. 16) Deuteronomy 5:29; James 1:25
- B. Prayer Answered (vs. 22) Exodus 15:25; John 15:7
- C. Faith Established (vs. 24) Matthew 16:16; Mark 15:39; John 4:29; 42

GOLDEN TEXT: *BUT MY GOD SHALL SUPPLY ALL YOUR NEED ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY BY CHRIST JESUS.*

Philippians 4:19

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Kings 18:7-46

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Numbers 16:1-50; 23:1-30;
1 Chronicles 21:25-30

QUARTERLY THEME: Kings and Prophets of Israel

TOPIC: ELIJAH, GOD'S CHAMPION

INTRODUCTION:

During the three years of the drought, Ahab had searched everywhere for Elijah but could not find him. His intention undoubtedly was to kill Elijah. Now under the leading and protection of God, Elijah appeared. When Ahab began to accuse Elijah for the trouble the nation was experiencing, he in turn laid the responsibility on Ahab, where it rightfully belonged.

Then by God's direction Elijah proved to the people that the god Baal could not perform miracles, but that the Lord was all-powerful. The experience of the fire on the altar caused people to realize that "the Lord, He is God." We wonder often times what it will take to cause men and women today to turn to God and acknowledge Him. We must admit that in our affluent but sinful society the question can again be asked, "How long halt ye between two opinions?"

Elijah seemed to stand alone, but he stood for God. Sometimes we may feel that we stand alone, but let us do it faithfully and boldly as Elijah did.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Faith in God can make us more than a match for the wicked forces against which we contend.

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . ***GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU, THAN HE THAT IS IN THE WORLD.*** 1 John 4:4

Our Golden Text was written by the Apostle John for us today, but as we look at our lesson we might think that it was written for Elijah. In his experience on Mt. Carmel the strength and greatness of God was manifest to Elijah and to the entire multitude. On the other hand the power of the god Baal proved to be nothing. This surely turned men to acknowledge the Lord as "the" God.

Ahab on the other hand refused to acknowledge Him. As a result this became the beginning of the end for him and his wife Jezebel.

These lessons are not meant merely as history, but are intended for us to increase our faith in God and to establish us upon the Solid Rock. We are confronted on every side by so many gods, but we need to cast these down and destroy their altars and worship and serve the living God. Satan has his power and his kingdom and many follow him but those who permit God to rule their lives find a power that helps them resist sin. They also find real victory and the joy and peace that comes with it. Even the ability to detect the false gods is given to us through the Lord Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 30 – May 6

- M. A Judge Who Was a Champion. Judges 15:14-20
- T. A Shepherd Who Was a Champion. 1 Samuel 17:45-50
- W. A King Who Was a Champion. 1 Kings 10:14-23
- T. *A Prophet Champions God's Cause. 1 Kings 18:17-24
- F. *Jehovah Versus Baal. 1 Kings 18:25-29
- S. *The Test on Mt. Carmel. 1 Kings 18:30-39
- S. *Jehovah's Complete Triumph. 1 Kings 18:40-46

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