

Elijah

My God is Yahweh



“a man subject to like passions as we are” James 5:17

Elijah vs Ahab

Elijah	Ahab
Confident	Weak and evil (1 Kings 16:30)
Reformer	Easily Led
“God of Israel ... I am thy servant” (1 Kings 18:36)	“served Baal” (1 Kings 16:31)
Rough clothing (2 Kings 1:7-8)	King’s Robes
Driven to Zidon (1 Kings 17:9)	Married Jezebel of Zidon (1 Kings 16:31)

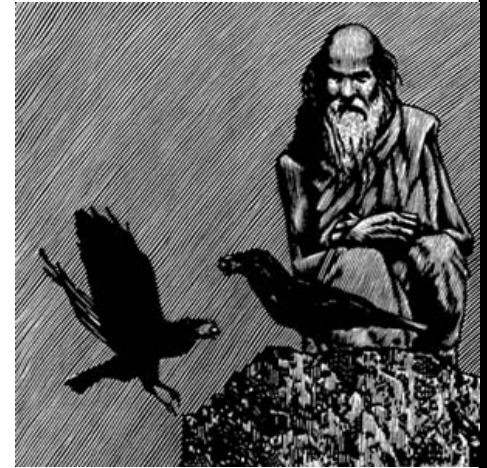
God's Provision (1 Kings 17:5-10)

1. Ravens

- ☀️ Unclean birds that no Israelite would go near
- ☀️ Scavengers
- ☀️ Provided food for Elijah for a whole year

2. Widow of Zarephath

- ☀️ Gentile woman
- ☀️ From Jezebel's home city
- ☀️ Provided food for Elijah for 2½ years



“What God hath cleansed that call not thou common” Acts 10:15

Contest on Carmel (1 Kings 18)

Baal was the sun god - and assumed to be responsible for the drought that had plagued the land for 3½ years.

The challenge Elijah proposed was no accident. The test of fire would be more than fair if that was Baal's strength.

Elijah's Response

- ☀ Repaired (“healed”) the altar of Yahweh used by Abraham
- ☀ Saturated the altar
- ☀ Waited until the time of the evening sacrifice

Forerunner for a King (1 Kings 18:46)

Elijah offers Ahab the benefit of the doubt - hoping that he has been finally convinced of the power of God.

☀ Invites him to eat and drink.

☀ Warns him of the coming rain and

☀ Runs before his chariot all the way to Jezreel.

This was not a competition for Elijah, but a way of showing honour for the one who he hoped would now be a true King of Israel.

Despair (1 Kings 19:3-4)

Joy and victory at the rout of the prophets of Baal turned quickly to despair as Jezebel responds with a death threat. Elijah can only think to run and hide.

How could he run from Jezebel after seeing the power of God on Carmel?

Because he was human like the rest of us.

Now think of Elijah's state of mind:

☀ Exhausted

☀ Depressed

☀ Alone



God's Cure (1 Kings 19)

“God shall supply all your need” (Phil 4:19)

Physical need: God supplied food, drink and rest.
Then more food for the long journey.

Spiritual need: God taught humility and offered forgiveness
at Mount Horeb.

Emotional need: God offered a
companion for Elijah
to be with him for the
remainder of his work.



New Goals (1 Kings 19:15-19)

Problem:

Living the Truth seemed too hard with insurmountable difficulties.

God's answer:

☀ Form goals.

☀ Break the problem down to “bite-sized” pieces

☀ Trust in God and ask for help

☀ Look to brothers and sisters for help

☀ Make a start IMMEDIATELY