

Elijah

My God is Yahweh



“my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and the horsemen thereof” (2 Kings 2:12)

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.



Elisha's Calling (1 Kings 19:19-21)

From:

- Home life
& Family
- Prosperity
- Inheritance



To:

- Wandering life
- Servitude
- Confrontation
with rulers

**Judge your commitment by what you had to
give up to remain true**

Naboth's Vineyard (1 Kings 21)

Naboth = 'fruit, produce'
Jezreel = 'God sows'



- **Symbol of**
 - inheritance (Amos 9:14)
 - reward (Isa 65:21)
 - God's work (Luke 20:9)
- **Long time in maturing - indicating patience and hard work**
- **Very different to the "garden of herbs" that Ahab wanted to make it.**

An Israelite's inheritance was a sacred gift from God, and defined his place as part of God's people.

Jezebel's Machinations (2 Kings 2)

- Instigated a sham trial: “religious” overtones (Mt 26:59)
- Direct challenge to God’s authority
- Dominant partner on the throne
- Manipulative and ruthless
- Intrusion into her power base
- Compare to the false religious system of Revelation - leading others astray (Rev 2:20; 17:3-6)



**“I will give thee the vineyard of
< fruit that God has sown >”**

v7

Ahab Humbled (1 Kings 21:17-29)



**“hast thou found me?” - Ahab feels guilty
as soon as he sees Elijah**

God's Judgements

**Sincere and
Humble
Repentance**

Sentence Reduced

Ahaziah's Downfall (2 Kings 1)

- **Elijah sent with a message**
- **Attempt to arrest Elijah**
- **Elijah's 'heated' response**
- **Appeal**
- **Ahaziah's death**



Elijah Departs (2 Kings 2)

... in a blaze of fire and in a whirlwind.

Witnesses:

- Elisha - watching from the east bank of Jordan
- 50+ men (*'ish'*) - watching from the west bank

Elisha's Exclamation

- Proof that he saw Elijah leave
- Recognition in Elijah of the power of God working in Israel



Taking up the Mantle

“Double portion of the spirit”

- Asking for approval to continue Elijah’s work
- No demand for twice as much (despite the relative proportions of miracles)
- Seeking acknowledgment before the other prophets
- The mantle (& its miracle) confirmed Elisha’s position

What happened to the chariot of fire?

Elijah was taken in the whirlwind, but the chariot that had separated Elijah and Elisha remained. A sign to Elisha of the validity of his calling. (cp 2 Kings 6:17)

