

PRAYING MEN OF THE BIBLE

#5 ELIJAH – THE PRAYING PROPHET

MARCH 15, 2023

"I have known men," says Goodwin—it must have been himself—"who came to God for nothing else but to just come to Him, they so loved Him. They scorned to soil Him and themselves with any other errand than just purely to be alone with Him in His presence. Friendship is best kept up, even among men, by frequent visits; and the more free and defecate (purified or refined) those frequent visits are, and the less occasioned by business, or necessity, or custom they are, the more friendly and welcome they are." Rev. Alexander Whyte

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 17:1 - 2 Kings 2:12

Central Truth: God uses the ordinary to bring forth His extraordinary purposes in the earth!

Who was Elijah?

- 1/ A Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead.
- 2/ A Prophet whose ministry was set during the reign of King Ahab.
- 3/ A man of prayer and intense passion for God

What did Elijah do?

- 1/ Elijah prophesied a drought that would last over three years.

James 5:17-18 Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. ¹⁸ Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

- 2/ Elijah learned the power of obedience and prayer during the hidden years.
 - a. The Ravens
 - b. The widow
 - c. The widow's son
- 3/ Elijah went head-to-head with the false gods Israel had chosen embrace.

1 Kings 18:16-40 – full account

1 Kings 18:36, 37 – Elijah's prayer

At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

How was prayer a priority of Elijah's Life?

1/ Elijah could do nothing, except by/through prayer.

2/ Elijah learned the true power of prayer – it comes from a place of complete surrender and obedience to God.

Christian Life Lessons

1/ It takes persistent and persevering prayer to give the promise of God its most gracious results!

2/ Truth and heart reality are the core, substance, and sum of the heart of prayer.

3/ The secret of Elijah's praying and his character are found in the words "before whom I stand" or "whom I serve." 1 Kings 17:1 (KJV) (NIV)

Looking Ahead

March 22 – Ezra and Nehemiah

March 29 – Daniel and Samuel