

Can Man Live Without God?

What Are You Doing Here?

1 Kings 19:9

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Introduction:

- First Week – We need the Word of God to live as He calls us to.
 - Last week – What happens when we lose the wonder of who God is?
 - Today – We'll talk about discouragement and despair.
 - **Psalm 23:4**
 - Two attitudes to avoid:
 - A defiant attitude of greatness.
 - An attitude of self-pity.
 - The Prophet Elijah is considered one of the greatest prophets of Israel.
 - He is one of only two people to have never faced death. – **2nd Kings 2:11**
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1. Elijah Experienced Success:

- a. King Ahab of Israel was an evil man.
- b. His wife's name is synonymous with evil – Jezebel.
- c. **1st Kings 16:33**
- d. Ahab does all that he can to provoke God and then comes Elijah.
- e. **1st Kings 17:1**
- f. Elijah calls for a prophetic duel – 450 Prophets of Baal and 400 Prophets of Asherah against Elijah.
- g. **1st Kings 18:27**
- h. **1st Kings 18:36-38**
- i. Pictures – Elijah, Mt. Carmel, and Kishon Valley
- j. **Romans 8:31**

1. Elijah Has a Pity Party for Himself:

- a. **1st Kings 19:9 and 13** – “What are you doing here, Elijah?”
- b. **Picture** – Elijah's Cave
- c. We all hit moments of despair. We all hit moments of discouragement. We all hit moments, even if they are small, of depression.
- d. **1st Kings 19:2-3**
- e. **Psalm 96:16-19**
- f. **1st Peter 5:6-7**

2. Elijah Experienced Low Self-Esteem and Low Self-Worth:

- a. **1st Kings 19:4**
- b. **James Dobson** ... *“Remember what the mother whale told her baby ... ‘When you get to the top and start to blow ... that is when you get harpooned!’”*
- c. **Psalms 139:13-14**
- d. **Jeremiah 29:11**
- e. **Romans 5:8**
- f. **John 3:16**
- g. **1st Kings 19:10**
- h. Only God’s Will matters, not yours or mine. Only God’s work matters, not yours or mine. Only God’s opinion matters, not yours or mine.

3. Elijah Returns to Ministry:

- a. Elijah needed his faith in God resuscitated. His faith in man restored, and his faith in himself strengthened. His retreat in the wilderness did all three.
- b. When Elijah heard the voice of God, he responded.
- c. The voice of God came in a “Gentle Whisper.”