

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

1Corinthians 12:12

A Discouraged Prophet

Glen Young

Store In My Heart

Malachi 3:7

"From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," says the Lord of hosts. "But you say, 'How shall we return?'"

The last of the prophets spoke shortly after the days of Haggai and Zechariah. Malachi was sent to urge restored Israel to leave their wicked ways and return to the Lord. The priests were corrupt, worship was vain, the poor and needy were oppressed, divorce was rampant, and the tithe was ignored.

Malachi instructed the people and their leaders to return to the commands of God given by Moses. He also promised blessings to those who returned. He further spoke of the coming of a messenger of God who would hold them to account for their deeds.

Elijah was a powerful prophet. He was a rugged individualist, who most likely, had the physique as well. However, his strength was in Jehovah. How else could he have killed the prophets of Baal (about four hundred and fifty) and outrun the chariot of Ahab to Jezreel, except Jehovah was with him? (**1Kings 18:40,46**).

Yes, Elijah was a mighty man of God. However, he had his moments of fear and weakness. Once queen Jezebel had heard of her prophets being slain by Elijah, she sent him a message. *"So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time"* (**1Kings 19:2**). Now Jezebel was an evil, wicked woman, a spiteful woman, one of them straight razor tote'n kinda women. Elijah knew she was not kidding so he left town in a hurry.

Elijah first traveled into the wilderness a day's journey and sat down under a juniper tree. While sitting there, he became despondent and said, *"It is enough; now, O Jehovah, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers"* (**1Kings 19:4**). No doubt exhausted, he lay down under the juniper tree to sleep. He was awakened by the touch of an angel of the Lord. There was at his head a bread cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. The angel came a second time and said, *"Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for thee"* (**1Kings 19:7**). With the nourishment of this food, he traveled forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of Jehovah.



Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

Joyce Venable is still dealing with nausea and blood pressure issues.

Vickie McNees suffered from painful migraines for much of the past week.

Jimmy Gray has been released by his doctor.

The Simpson family is out of town this weekend.

Jerry & Dottie Henderson are in Texas with grandkids this weekend before heading home.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

Elijah's next hideout was in a cave. It was here that Jehovah questioned Elijah as to why he was hiding in that cave. Elijah responded by saying, *"I have been very jealous for Jehovah, the God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword: and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away"* (**1Kings 19:10**).

Have you ever felt that you were the only one who was battling Satan? Upon this occasion, Elijah felt that way. He did not lose his belief in Jehovah. He did not blame Jehovah for his predicament. He simply felt he was the only person left on earth who was trying to serve Jehovah God.

Satan wants you and me to feel as did Elijah. He wants us to become discouraged through a lack of confidence in our brethren. He accomplishes his goal by tempting us to use our tongues as weapons of destruction, gossiping, and backbiting (**James 3**). He tempts us to place a chip on our shoulder and dare a brother to knock it off (**James 1:19-20**). He tempts us to assume the worst (evil surmising) about our brethren (**1Timothy 6:4**). He tempts us to ignore Romans chapter fourteen keeping issues of personal faith fomenting to the point of erupting into strife and contention that hinders the work of a local church. Is it any wonder that conscientious Christians sometime become discouraged?

The good news is that Christian service is not doom and gloom. Jehovah told Elijah, *"Yet will I leave me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him"* (**1Kings 19:18**). Though he thought he was alone in the fight for righteousness, Elijah had seven thousand brethren fighting with him.

If we are looking for God in the great and strong wind, or the mighty earthquake, or the roaring fire, we shall be disappointed. It is in the meek and quiet spirit that God does His best work (**1Peter 3:1-4**).

You are not alone. Rejoice in your brethren and take courage.

(Study, Meditate, Apply, Pray, Repeat! DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!