

ELIJAH PART IV
II KINGS 1 & 2
FEBRUARY 16-17, 2019

INTRODUCTION

- Elijah lived in a time that was wild and wicked. Israel was in deep trouble with God for worshiping idols.
- Ahab was the King and he was married to Jezebel.
- Elijah was a prophet marked by faith and the Spirit of the Lord was on him with great power.
- But like us he failed. He ran off in fear and God had to restore him.

I. THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD AND THE CROSS

- In the Old Testament judgement was real and often swift.
- II Kings 1:3-4 NLT, But the angel of the Lord said to Elijah...“Go up and meet the messengers of the King of Samaria and ask them, ‘Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going off to consult Baal-Zebub...Therefore...the Lord says: ‘You will not leave the bed you are lying on. You will certainly die!’”
- The King sends his army out to get Elijah.
- This is sometimes confusing for us like it was for Jesus’ guys - Luke 9:46-56
- In the age of Moses’ law especially with Israel, God’s holiness and justice were on display and His righteousness and judgement came quickly.
- But in the age we live in Jesus’ grace abounds over us.

II. THE RENEWED FAITH OF AN OLD ELIJAH

- Azhaiah was the son of Ahab and was wicked and an idol worshiper like his father and mother.

- He has an accident and sends his messengers to the temple to find out if he will get well.
- Vss. 15-16 – Two times they die. The 3rd time Elijah goes down and pronounces Azhaiah’s judgement.
- No fear, no hesitation, just faith that God would cover him.

III. THE END IS IN SIGHT

- II Kings 2:1-6 - Elijah’s time is up. He is one of the few who never died. He was taken up into heaven.
- Elijah’s life had been lonely and often rose above his culture.
- Vss. 7-13 - Elijah is taken up in the whirlwind.
- Why did God do that for him? Likely because he lived alone in a land largely turned away from God.
- Even though he quit once and laid down asking to die.
- Death is a transition from one life to the next.
- Not a state, but a passage, a door to another life.
- Paul said, “Absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.”

CLOSE

- The last unfinished business was his student, Elisha who would follow in his footsteps.
- Elisha’s request was a double portion of God’s presence.
- We all need to hunger for more, ask for more, believe for more...
- Of His presence of His Spirit’s work.
- And God gave it to him. Elijah’s mantle floated down to him and quietly he received power.