

O LORD TAKE AWAY MY LIFE

1 KINGS 19

Text: 1 Kings 19:1-4

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¹ And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. ² Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time. ³ And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. ⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

Introduction:

Many of us know of someone that the doctor has said "I'm sorry, but they have taken a turn for the worse."

This could also be said about our spiritual health.

At times, the condition of our faith seems to deteriorate.

Elijah had been doing so well: but in our text, he has taken a turn for the worse.

He's an example of being overwhelmed.

What do we mean by being overwhelmed?

We are speaking of being cast down: set back; burned out; in despair; discouraged: weak: lonely; full of self-pity: depressed; in trauma: immobilized; and often very vulnerable.

Over the next few weeks I want us to consider the truths regarding being overwhelmed through this example from the life of Elijah.

Notice:

1. THE REALITY OF BEING OVERWHELMED

A. It was a sure reality - he was down; he was defeated

B. It was a sudden reality - overnight: not planned: a change

C. It was a subduing reality - runs: hides; gives up

Notice not only the Reality of Being Overwhelmed but also:

2. THE REASON FOR BEING OVERWHELMED

A. His famine - the lack - dry; the length - 3 1/2 years

B. His fight - Mt. Carmel: not a scuffle; a conflict; a confrontation

C. His fame - none could excel; extinguish: or explain him

D. His fear - he failed in his strong point; summary point

E. His frustration - no repentance: no revival; no restoration

F. His fatigue - physical; mental; emotional; spiritual

G. His forgetfulness - forgot God's ability; authority; activity

Notice not only the Reality of Being Overwhelmed, and the Reasons For Being Overwhelmed but also:

3. THE REVELATIONS FROM BEING OVERWHELMED

A. His weakness was revealed - (v. 3) he ran away

1 Kings 19:3

³ *And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.*

B. His withdrawal was revealed - (v. 3, 4)
alone/but.., not good

1 Kings 19:3-4

³ *And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.* ⁴ *But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.*

C. His wish was revealed - (v. 4) a silly prayer

1 Kings 19:4

⁴ *But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.*

Close:

The situation or circumstances may be overwhelming, but let me say that “God Will See You Through.”