



## More Than Enough!

Lesson 15 • 1Kings 19:1-18

### What Happens When Enough Is Enough?

*Unfulfilled Expectations Lead to Unexpected Depression & Disobedience!*

#### 1. Ahab the Apostate King **FAILS** to Lead.

**1Kings 19:1** Now Ahab told Jezebel **ALL** that **Elijah** had done, and how he had killed **ALL** the prophets with the sword.

#### 2. Jezebel the Pagan Queen **REFUSES** to Repent.

**1Kings 19:2** Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “**So may the gods do to me and even more, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.**”

#### 3. Elijah the Loyal Prophet **FLEES** in Fear.

**1Kings 19:3-5a** And he was **afraid** and **arose** and **ran for his life** and came to **Beersheba**, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

**19:4a** But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and **sat down under a juniper tree**;

**19:4b-5** and he requested **for himself** that he might **die**, and said, “**IT IS ENOUGH; NOW, O LORD, TAKE MY LIFE, for I am not better than my fathers.**” He lay down and slept under a juniper tree; and behold, there was an angel touching him, and he said to him, “Arise, eat.”

**His LAMENTATION?** “I have had enough! LORD, take my life, for I’m no better than my fathers.” (CSB)

### Elijah Was a Human Being Just Like Us!

Too often we expect the LORD to do it **OUR WAY**...on our **TIMETABLE** and to do it all **THROUGH US**.

### What Does “Enough Is Enough” Really Mean?

**Ten Reasons Why This is More than a Case Study of Depression**

- 1) No **WORD** from the LORD to run or hide. (3)
- 2) No **PRAYER** to the LORD for wisdom, guidance, or protection. (3)
- 3) No **DESIRE** to live just to die. (4)
- 4) Elijah’s **PASSIVE** obedience to eat, drink, and then sleep. (5-6)
- 5) Elijah’s **WANDERS** in the wilderness to Mount Horeb/Sinai in the opposite direction of Israel after the Exodus. (8; cf. Joshua 5:6)
- 6) The LORD’s **REPEATED** question: “*What are you doing here, Elijah (= Yahweh is my God!)?*” (9, 13)
- 7) Elijah’s **UNCHANGING** response: “*I, even I, I am the only one left!*” (10, 14)
- 8) The LORD corrects his “**MESSIAH COMPLEX**” by commissioning replacements and revealing a remnant. (15-18)
- 9) Elijah is **LIKE** Job and Jonah in significant ways.

Elijah is like **Job** who laments and wishes he was never born! (Job 3)

**Why?** God is **UNFAIR** in how he **is** treating him: “**I deserve better!**”

Elijah is like **Jonah** who runs in the opposite direction and sits under a tree to sulk! (Jonah 1 and 4)

**Why?** God is **UNJUST** in how he is **not** treating others: “**They deserve worse!**”

- 10) Elijah ends up **OBEYING** the Word of the Lord. (19)

**Five Symptoms of Elijah’s “Messiah Complex”** (19:10, 14)

- 1) Self-**CENTEREDNESS** (19:10, 14)
- 2) Self-**IMPORTANCE** (19:4, 10, 14)

- **Faithful Servant Obadiah** (“Servant of Yahweh”) risked his life to save 100 prophets in caves of 50 each (1Kings 18).
- **Fearless Prophet Micaiah** (“Who Is Like Yahweh”) who a few years later withstood Ahab’s 400 prophets (1Kings 22).

- 3) Self-**RELIANCE** (19:3, 11-13, 15-18)
- 4) Self-**RIGHTEOUSNESS/JUSTIFICATION** (19:10, 14)
- 5) Self-**PITY** (19:4)

#### 4. Yahweh the Promise Keeper **REMAINS** Loyal to His Remnant.

1Kings 19:5b-18

- A **PROVISION** of **Love** in the Wilderness. (5-8)
- A **DEMONSTRATION** of **Faith** on the Mountain. (9-14; Exodus 19; 32-33)

MOSES on MOUNT SINAI   Exodus 32	ELIJAH on MOUNT SINAI   1Kings 19
An Advocate for Israel	An Accuser of Israel
Intercedes for Them	Intercedes against Them <i>Romans 11:2-3</i>
Requests Forgiveness	No Requests – Just Accusations & Resignation
Seeks Grace without Justice	Seeks Justice without Grace

- A **MISSION** of **Hope** for the Future. (15-18)
  - 1) A **mission** is given: *Set apart three new leaders!*
  - 2) A **prediction** is made: *No one will escape the coming judgment!*
  - 3) A **provision** is promised: *By God's sovereign grace a loyal remnant will be preserved!*

#### **LESSONS to LEARN from ELIJAH'S ENOUGH**

*When We Have Had Enough, God's Grace Is **MORE THAN** Enough!*

- #1 The LORD **SENDS** us His Son to meet us where we are. (5, 7)

*"Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry out or raise His voice, Nor make His voice heard in the street. **A bruised reed He will not break And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice.** He will not be disheartened or crushed Until He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands will wait expectantly for His law." **Isaiah 42:1-4***

- #2 The LORD **NOURISHES** us with His providential provisions. (6, 8)

- #3 The LORD **GIVES** us His rest. (6)

*"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." **Matthew 11:28-30***

- #4 The LORD **SHOWS** us His mercy. (6-7)

- #5 The LORD **REBUKES** us in love with searching questions. (9, 13)

- #6 The LORD **REVEALS** to us our greatest need. (11-13; Exodus 19:17-19; Luke 10:38-42)

- #7 The LORD **REMINDS** us of His sovereign ways. (12, 15-18)

- #8 The LORD **CALLS** us to repent by His grace. (15)

- #9 The LORD **OFFERS** us hope in His unfailing, loyal love. (15-18)

*And He has said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.**" Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong. **2Corinthians 12:9-10***

*I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have torn down your altars, and I alone am left, and they are seeking my life." But what is the divine response to him? "I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." **In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice. But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace. Romans 11:1-6***

#### **When You Have Had Enough, God's Grace Is More Than Enough to Get You Through to Keep You on Mission!**

*"So he departed from there and found Elisha..." 1Kings 19:19*