

offcrest

SUBJECT: Call to Victory

Text: I Kings 19-1:15

Generation of xians have considered the victory at Mt. Carmel with great excitement. ~~But what about its after math.~~ In the 19th chp of I kings Ahab told Jezebell all that Eligah had done. How he had slain all their prophets with the sword and so Jezebell sent a message to Eligah telling him that she was going to kill him. The Bible says when Elizah heard these saying he was afraid and fled for his life. ~~But notice the strange logic, he fled and usually when somebody runs thier sunning a way to safety yet Elizah ran and then requested death.~~

~~But notice also that this great man of God felt depression and self-pity- (READ)~~

~~At the point of Elizah moving out to stand in the still small voice of God Elizah was called to victory.~~ (1) In this scripture before us we see a winner, one that had defeated a nation of false prophets acting like a looser.

(2) We see a man of courage one that dared to stand face to face with a king acting like a courd. (3) We see a prophet of the Lord acting like a little self-centered Boy.

(4) We see a strong man- acting like a wealking and what is more pethic is that we see a child of God acting like a orphan. (5)

~~Now all of us have our ups and downs.~~ But what possible ^{series} ~~sense~~ of events ~~that~~ could have brought the prophet of God so low that he hide himself in a cave of dispare.

Well you know the story, after the victory on Mt. Carmel Jezebell (queen of the terriorty) sent ham a message in verse 2 that essentially says, "I'm going to kill you in the next 24 hrs. or die trying ^{and in the} ~~and in the~~ ^{xxxx} force of that threat Elizah fled for his life

Now In his retreat ^{Elizah} had an incounter with God and it ^{is} here that we find several (note worthy) things:

Looking I ~~First~~ ^{was observing} Elizah ~~first observed~~ the wrong things in life. In verse 3 the scrippare says when he saw ~~that~~ "that" Now what did he see? ~~and~~ ^{surely} ~~and answer that let us put into negative terms~~ ¹ certain Elizah did not have his gaze looking toward (the promises) of God. ² He was not dwelling on thne [mighty power] of God tht was evidenced at Mt. Carmel. ³ He was not seeeing a cloud in the sky in the form of a hand as an answer to his prayer for a famine stricken land. ¹ No, he wasn't seeing anything like tht all he could see was an very (angry) Queen who wanted to kill him. ² All he could see was the mental horrors of a crouw [death] and so he bleed for his life.

I think Elizah could have avoid the cave of despare if only he had look at God's ¹ power, God's ² provision, and God's ³ presence in' his life. So often we to go needlessly into the cave of despare seeking only those things tht ~~possess~~ threats to us. All of us hve such times. ~~But when the task is threatening to the~~ ^{But like} ~~task~~ ^{we too must} Elizah learned ~~that~~ ^{that there is no} need to despare. Just fix your sight upon God's ¹ power, ² presence and ³ promise within your life and ~~cast your cares upon him for he truly cares for you.~~

Paul
HEART
WATCH
AWAY
Refer
on the
sea of
Galilee

~~Logic~~ ^{Saying} Second, Elizah ^{for the wrong things} prays to die. (The bible says when Elizah haear that Jezebell was out to get him, he ran, but then notice a strnage tpe of logic here. He bleed for his life but then he prayes to die (v 4) He prayes for the very thing that he was not going to experience. In that cave, in his dispare Elizah ^{prayed to die, but prayed for something he} would not face. To die, No ~~xx~~ Elizah made a grand exit form this old world and if his prayes would have been answered he wuls have missed it all. ¹ Often when the circumstances of our lives seem so desperate, when we are faced with trougles, we can't over come and ² certainly we don't understand (our ~~temptations~~ ^{temptations} is pray for one thing when God has something ³ for better in mind for us.

The history of Elizah illustrates that we are able to pour out our souls in ~~xxx~~ unhibited prayer before the father but in the ~~last~~ end

the only prayer for the child of God is, **They will be done"**

The only element that dignifies any life is that it conforms to the will of God.

They will be done!
~~That is the only prayer that we as Christians can ever hope to pray.~~ *LISTENING*

Notice that God asks Elizah (in verse 9) **what doest thou here Elizah?** **Now ~~if~~ life is for doing, it is for service and the life for a child of God is to be actively involved in God's activities.** Elizah was not doing anything for God in that cave. ~~He wasn't doing anything~~ he was moning and brother there are plenty of caves of desapre for you^{to} to hide in even today.

① There is the cave of (I don't want to really get involved.) ~~we~~ some how have this mistake idea that ~~Gods xxxxxx work is like any other secular employment.~~ We punch a clock and are careful not ~~to~~ to put in any ~~over~~ time.

② Then there is the cave of, (Oh, I can't do anything anyway.) Well of course you can't because you haven't tried. But you will continue in your cave of desapre thinking your useless in God's works unless you try.

③ *the cave of too much to do -*
 We often hear of all the ~~needs~~ ^{needs} that need to be performed and we cant do allof them so we do nothing and God comes to us as he did to Elizah

and says, **What are you doing?** *What are u doing for the LORD?*

Notice in verse 10, Elizah had that worthless lonely feeling. In ^{the previous verse} just before this statement Elizah had stood ~~x~~ all alone before 450 prophets of Baal willing to die a mytors ~~xxxx~~ death. But now to die a ^{a lonely death} ~~xxxx~~ at the hands of Jezebell was unthinkable.

Oh, all that which I've tried to do, so faithable by myself seems now to be so useless. ① I've tried to paint the picture of God to the people but they have not responded. ② What can one person do. **That is the mood of the prophet as he talks to God** and that mood is a bleak alternative to faith.

When the lamp of faith is blown out by the winds of ^{adversity} ~~odnesity~~ (then) there is darkness indeed. All of us have had these experiences. "What is the

use?" What can just one xian can do (an in response the poet says a cobbler doesn't know how far his shoes will go and a xian doesn't know how far his witness will go. ~~but~~ ^{each must take one step at time continuing walk}

God ^{gave} ~~then~~ gave Elizah a simple command. ^{that's applic to all of earth this evening} Go forth Elizah ^{U.S.} ~~in~~ the cave of

~~despate~~ ~~represents~~ ~~reactor~~ ~~to~~ ~~diversity~~ but God commissions him to action.

Action, Go forth, ~~listen~~ those who are xians aren't happy simply being pushed around by the winds of time. ~~xian service is never to be reaction.~~

We are commanded to go forth daily so that our lives may be a daily walking witness for God. No you'll not do all there is to do, but each day/do what

God commands ^{Go forth TO WORK > effective w/Tr. for God -} ~~you to do.~~ ^{Be affective, be active for God and don't allow} the circumstances of life paralyze you into ~~in~~ ⁱⁿactivity. ^{Philp 4:19}

~~God spoke to Elizah in a still small voice~~

God spoke to Elizah in a still small voice. Mt. Horbo was destroyed by the ^①hallowing of a great wind. It was ^②spoken by a might earth quake.'

It ^③was burned by a flame and Elizah ~~stood~~ ~~watacing~~ stood watacing all this unmoved but ~~then~~ God spoke in a still small voice and Elizah wrapped his

face in a mantel ~~in~~ in reverence before God. He knew that God was speaking

and he obeyed. Listen, (in a quit way) this evening God is speaking to his servants (saying) GO FORTHM. (To serve)

No matter what the circumstances ^①(remember) ^Amy promises, ^Bfix your sites on the evidence of (my power and my preseance) in you life. Go forth Listen, Listen, and Obey ^{my} voice.