

## STILL SMALL VOICE

6-7-15

I Kings 19:1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.

I Kings 19:2 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.

I Kings 19:3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.

I Kings 19:4 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.

I Kings 19:5 And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

I Kings 19:6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.

I Kings 19:7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.

I Kings 19:8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

I Kings 19:9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?

I Kings 19:10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD 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.

I Kings 19:11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; [but] the LORD was not in the earthquake:

I Kings 19:12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

I Kings 19:13 And it was so, when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

I Kings 19:14 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because 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.

I Kings 19:15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

I Kings 19:16 And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

I Kings 19:17 And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

I Kings 19:18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

**Introduction:** You could not have found a darker spiritual time in Israel. Jezebel was in the "White House," and she led Ahab around by the nose.

Elijah had prayed it would not rain for 3-1/2 years hoping that it would wake up his nation. The Lord answered his prayer, and there was a famine in the land.. Then after the 3 1/2 years he

challenged the prophets of Baal to a spiritual contest so to speak. Who indeed is God? If Baal is God, worship him; if Jehovah be God, worship Him.

So he said the God who is real would be able to consume an offering with fire. If Baal brings down fire from heaven, he is God; if Jehovah answers by fire, He is God.

Of course, you know the story ... Baal was silent ... the Lord rained down fire and consumed the offering. Elijah even poured water on the offering just so the children of Israel would know he was not playing any tricks.

Now after all this, he ran to the capital city, Jezreel. Then Jezebel was able to undo all that he did.

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I Kings 19:2 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.

Now I certainly can't verify this, but it sounds believable. Years ago an evangelist that visited our church told me that Bill Clinton, when he was governor of Arkansas, walked the isle for salvation at a Tim Lee Evangelistic Meeting. But when he got home Jezebel, I mean Hillary, read him the riot act and made sure he didn't follow through on his profession. How many men have been prevented from serving the Lord by a contentious wife?

So all the good that Elijah did was undone by Jezebel in one stroke of her witch-y hand.

Despondent, depressed and downhearted, he fled from Jezebel into the wilderness. We can only wonder: how it is that this bold prophet who withstood the 850 false prophets and the armies of Israel, now he finds himself on the run from Jezebel?

Lessons to learn from Elijah ...

## ***I. LESSONS CONCERNING DISAPPOINTMENTS ...***

### ***THERE IS NOTHING MORE DISCOURAGING OR LESS PREDICTABLE THAN PEOPLE***

He had hoped the nation would have repented after all his efforts; when he realized he did not get the results he hoped for, he lost all hope for living.

He prayed it would not rain for 3-1/2 years. Imagine how many people this affected. It got Ahab so upset he put out a summons for the arrest of Elijah for environmental crimes.

Imagine ... if you were the cause of there being a lack of rain for over 3 years. Ahab sent this warrant for Elijah's arrest to every nation.

Then after 3-1/2 years, Elijah shows up and says, "Gather all the people and all Jezebel's prophets together, and let's settle this thing once and for all."

If Baal be God, worship him. If Jehovah be God, worship Jehovah. The God that answers by fire, let him be God.

THE PEOPLE SAID, "Yeah, that sounds good."

Imagine the boldness of Elijah.  
Imagine his power and spiritual authority.

God vindicates Himself in His prophet: Send fire from heaven ... show signs and wonders before them all. The people cry out, "THE LORD HE IS THE GOD THE LORD HE IS THE GOD!!!!"

After all this he thought Ahab would be convinced, but when Ahab got home to Jezebel, he soon forgot all that happened. Jezebel sent a threatening letter to Elijah and AHAB DID NOTHING ABOUT IT!!!!

What more could be done?

Proverbs 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

When you put your hope in people and they disappoint you, your heart will become sick.

(How have I stayed in the ministry for over 30 years? Not by putting my trust in people.)

MY HOPE IS NOT IN PEOPLE. I HAVE LEARNED TO NEVER BE SHOCKED AT WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO OR NOT DO!

## **II. LESSONS CONCERNING THE POWER OF GOD ...**

Elijah knew God was all powerful.

Elijah saw God answer his prayer and hold back the rain for 3-1/2 years.

Elijah saw God answer his prayer and consume the offering before the eyes of the people.

Elijah saw God feed him with the ravens.

Elijah saw God not let the widow's barrel of meal fail or her cruise of oil fail all the time he dwelt with her in Zarephath.

He saw God resurrect the widow of Zeraphath's son.

Amazingly, for over a year the little widow lady saw God supernaturally sustain them with the little barrel of meal and a little cruise of oil ... but it wasn't until Elijah resurrected her son that she says ...

***I Kings 17:24 And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.***

NOW WHY WAS ELIJAH DEPRESSED? HE WAS USED IN THIS MANNER TO SHOW SIGNS AND MIRACLES AND THE POWER OF GOD ...

Yet he said, "It is enough, let me die."

Think: what additional miracles could Elijah perform to show the power of God to his nation?  
After all that he did ... after all that he showed ...

What he really wanted to see was national revival and the nation repent and turn to the Lord,  
and in this he felt he had failed ...

So he felt that in this he had failed, and now what more could he do than was done? What more  
signs could he show them? HE DID HIS PART ... GOD DID HIS PART ... SO HE LOST HIS  
PURPOSE.

Imagine.. If you put everything into a business—maybe a restaurant where you invested all  
your money: There was a beautiful environment, the best food, the best service, the best  
prices; and after all this, no one came to your restaurant.

Imagine if you were a mechanic who opened a garage to repair cars, and you provided the best  
service, you knew how to do repairs that no one else could do, you knew how to fix things no  
one else could fix, you put a sign out to advertise that your prices are better than anyone else's  
... and customers would not come.

ELIJAH SAID.. "I ONLY I AM LEFT TO SERVE YOU ... NO ONE ELSE."

God's work is unlike any other work. You cannot force people to come to the Lord. When sin  
enters their heart, when darkness rules their life, when Satan has a grip on them, IF THEY WILL  
NOT COME, THEY WILL NOT COME.

There is no formula.  
There is no science.

IT IS A MYSTERY ... GOD HIMSELF WILL NOT VIOLATE THEIR FREE WILL.

IT IS EASIER TO TEAR A MOUNTAIN APART WITH THE WIND ...  
IT IS EASIER TO SHAKE THE EARTH WITH AN MIGHTY QUAKE ...  
IT IS EASIER TO BRING FIRE DOWN FROM HEAVEN ...  
IT IS EASIER TO SHAKE THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH WITH HIS VOICE.

But God Himself will not violate man's free will.

Men can be manipulated for a time;  
Men can be restrained by His hand.

BUT WHEN PUSH COMES TO SHOVE, GOD WILL NOT BE FOUND IN THE WIND.  
GOD WILL NOT BE FOUND IN A QUAKE.  
GOD WILL NOT BE FOUND IN FIRE.

How many Katrinas have come and gone and still in the USA there is no revival?  
How many times has God shaken this nation and still there is no turning to God?  
How many more 9-11 fires must He bring, but all things continue and get worse?

It is just downright depressing.

A man of God can get downright depressed if he puts his hope in people.  
A man of God can get downright discouraged if he tries to make sense of it.

God had to take Elijah to a mountain to remind him that He is all powerful, and even if every human being rejects Him, He still is there and is all powerful.

**BUT MEN WILL NOT BE CONVINCED BY HIS POWER ...**

Because every day they see that power ...  
They see the sun, the moon, the stars ...  
They experience life; they feel His wind ...  
They fear the thunder and the power of an earthquake.

**BUT THEY REASON THESE THINGS AWAY, REJECTING AND ATTRIBUTING THAT POWER TO OTHER THINGS AND NOT TO HIM.**

**HERE IS THE LESSON ELIJAH WAS BEING TAUGHT BY THE LORD:**

God had to show him that He was indeed all powerful, but those who look for big things in this life will not find Him. Every day they experience His power, but it is not until they wait for His still small voice—this is where God's people get God's direction in their lives. This is where He can be found. When that still small voice speaks to them and says ... HERE. HERE I AM ...

Can any man show more of the power of God than God has already shown?

Any person that must be convinced by miracles to come to God will never come to God.

I'm thinking of a fellow who comes to church—asking God to get his wife back. God is not like a rabbit's foot. When he saw that his wife was tangled up with another man and it was hopeless, he immediately stopped coming to church.

Naaman the Syrian comes to be healed by Elisha. He says, "Go dip yourself 7 times in the river Jordan." He gets angry and says, "I THOUGHT ... I THOUGHT he would come out and call upon his God and God would manifest His greatness and pomp and the Prophet would strike his hand over the leprous spot and heal me ..."

**WHY IS IT WE LOOK FOR BIG THINGS?**

**GOD IS IN THE SMALL THINGS. IF YOU CANNOT FIND HIM IN YOUR PRAYER CLOSET, YOU WILL NEVER FIND HIM IN A REVIVAL MEETING.**

**HOW MANY PEOPLE LOOK FOR GOD IN:**

- REVIVAL MEETINGS ...
- GREAT PREACHING SERVICES ...
- SPECTACULAR MUSIC ...
- DYNAMIC MESSAGES ...
- BIG CROWDS AND GATHERINGS ...

If you need that, you will fizzle out for God.

Was it not King David .. who encouraged himself in that still small voice when the people talked about stoning him at Ziglag?

Was it not that still small voice that sustained Daniel in the Lions Den?

Was it not that still small voice that kept Jeremiah going in the miry pit?

Was it not that still small voice that kept Abraham going to seek a city whose Builder and Maker was God Himself?

Was it not that still small voice that kept Moses going in the wilderness?

Was it not that still small voice that kept Paul going those lonely nights in a Roman prison?

GOD IS NOT IN THE MIGHTY WIND.  
GOD IS NOT IN THE MIGHTY EARTHQUAKES.  
GOD IS NOT IN THE MIGHTY FIRES.

HE IS IN THAT STILL SMALL VOICE.

You are not much of a Christian if you need anything more to sustain you. You too will fizzle out. You will find yourself under a juniper tree saying, "It is enough Lord. Let me die..."

Two lessons Elijah needed to learn:

- I FIRST LESSON - PEOPLE WILL DISSAPOINT YOU***
- II. SECOND LESSON - HE MUST FIND GOD IN THAT STILL SMALL VOICE***

There is a third and probably the most important lesson of all that Elijah needed to learn, and we will talk about that tonight.

If you put your hope and trust in people, no matter who it is, you will find yourself some day under a juniper tree.

Years ago a deacon in our church asked me to go with him to talk to a man who had just lost his wife. His whole life was wrapped up in his wife; he loved her more than anything or anyone. How sad it was that he would not come to the Lord because he put his wife before God. He found himself bitter at God for taking his wife in death. The first and greatest command in the Bible is to love the Lord your God with all your heart—not your wife, not your children not even your own life. Husbands are commanded to love their wives, but we are commanded to love God even more. Ultimately we must face God alone and when that day comes if we have made an idol or put anything before Him, we will face the consequences. A few months later that same man died and had to face God, and if he never received Christ as Lord and remained bitter toward God, I am sure he went to perdition or hell. How sad it is when people let their hearts be clouded by putting other things or other people before the Lord.

Many years ago when I was playing music in the world I had a friend who knew I wrote songs. One day he gave me a poem and asked if I would set music to his poem. I never did and you will see why. I call this poem "Eddie's Poem." Here it is:

## ***Eddie's Love Poem***

Did you know that God above  
Created you for me to love.

He picked you out from all the rest  
Because He knew I'd love you best.

I once had a heart, and it was true  
But now it's gone from me to you.

Take care of it, as I have done  
For now you have two and I have none.

When I get to heaven and you're not there  
I'll print your name on the golden stair.

So all the angels can come and see  
Just how much you mean to me.

And if you're not there on judgment day  
I'll know you've gone back the other way.

So I'll give the angels back their wings,  
Their Golden Halos and everything.

And just to show you, I love you  
I'd even go to hell for you.

Even though years ago I was not saved and did not know the Lord, I knew that it was no light matter to be so flippant to be willing to go to hell. Yet the truth is that whatever you put first in your life is your god. That god can be a girlfriend, boyfriend, people, things, possessions, activities, career, jobs, you name it. The Bible says,

MAR 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Note what Jesus taught when they asked ..

Matthew 22:36 Master, which [is] the great commandment in the law?

Matthew 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

What do you live for? Who is number one in your life?

Do you live for your wife, your husband?

Do you live for your children?

Do you live for your family?

Years ago, as I struggled with my salvation, one thing held me back: my love for family, friends, and career. God let me be disappointed with people in order to save me. It was then that I sought out that still small voice. There are a lot of people who have to experience feeling rejected by others, finding themselves under a juniper tree dejected and rejected. It is then, and many times only then, that they come to grips with the fact that God is only found in that still small voice.

TO BE SAVED YOU NEED TO SEEK THAT STILL SMALL VOICE ...  
YOU NEED TO GET IN A POSITION WHERE YOU ARE ABLE TO HEAR THAT VOICE!!

### **III. LESSONS CONCERNING A FOCUSED MINISTRY**

1Kings 19:12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: **and after the fire a still small voice.**

1Kings 19:13 And it was so, when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

1 Kings 19:14 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because 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.

1 Kings 19:15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

1 Kings 19:16 And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

1 Kings 19:17 And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

1 Kings 19:18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

1 Kings 19:19 So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing [with] twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.

1 Kings 19:20 And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again: for what have I done to thee?

Finally Elijah had to learn not to let the fickle crowd discourage him. He also needed to realize that there was a remnant of God's people who refused to bow the knee to Baal. This was His remnant and these are the ones worth sacrificing and ministering to. It was at this point that Elijah's ministry went from a multitude ministry to a remnant ministry.

What America needs is a group of people who will not bow the knee to Baal. We have lost America, and there is no way an impact can be made in this nation politically. Jerry Falwell tried to turn America back politically, and he failed with his Moral Majority. All Jerry did was stir up the *immoral* majority to come out of the closet.

The truth is that we all want to see as many people as possible saved. We want to see our nation transformed. But just how many people can we really, effectively, reach for the Lord individually?



In Elijah's mind he was the only one left who loved the Lord and did not bow the knee to Baal. But the Lord set him straight and said, "I have yet 7000 who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

I Kings 19:18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

So it is, in America today there is not a moral majority but an immoral majority. People who are blinded to the truth—people who think it is okay for homosexuals to marry—people who think abortion is okay or don't even care—people who have the mentality that as long as things go well in my days, it does not matter what future generations suffer ...

People who think that we have evolved rather than are a creation of God—people who have bowed the knee to a god who is worse than Baal: the god of humanism.

**1. *Elijah reached a point where there was no turning the nation back to God, only to delay the inevitable ...***

I Kings 19:15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

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I believe America is at this same point today. The judgment of God will come. All we can do is rally the 7000 to delay the inevitable.

What is 7000 among millions? It is more than the "I only I" statement. God knows everyone who has not bowed the knee to the world and to the world system.

Mitt Romney made a statement that may have contributed to costing him the election. What he said is true, but not popular.

Here is a quote from a news article covering the incident:

*During a private fundraiser earlier this year, Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney told a small group of wealthy contributors what he truly thinks of all the voters who support President Barack Obama. He dismissed these Americans as freeloaders who pay no taxes, who don't assume responsibility for their lives, and who think government should take care of them. Fielding a question from a donor about how he could triumph in November, Romney replied:*

*There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what. All right, there are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-*

*it. That that's an entitlement. And the government should give it to them. And they will vote for this president no matter what. These are people who pay no income tax.*

Romney went on: "My job is is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

The truth is the majority of Christians today do not hold principles of godliness and holiness like they did a few years ago.

NOTICE THE LORD SAID THERE WERE 7000 who did not bow the knee; there were many who claimed they worshipped Jehovah, but they still bowed the knee! So too, in our nation today, there are many who say they are children of God, and are even born again, and are in fact "Christian," but they bow the knee to Baal.

## **2. THE LORD TOLD ELIJAH TO FOCUS HIS ATTENTION ON A REMNANT AND NOT TRY TO TURN BACK THE NATION**

I Kings 19:15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

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I Kings 19:18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

Go anoint Elisha to be prophet in your place.

Do you realize that we are not even reproducing ourselves in this nation today? We are facing a real dilemma in our country. The Lord showed Elijah the wind, the earthquake, the fire. and said "I am not in that—it is just a show."

We are living in a generation that wants a show—their Christianity depends on a show. THE FIRE... THE WIND ...THE EARTHQUAKE.

But when they find themselves down and discouraged ... this is when they need that still small voice.

PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW HOW TO STAND ALONE WITH GOD AND TRUST IN HIM, WHEN IT IS JUST THEMSELVES AND GOD. THIS IS WHEN THEY NEED THE STILL SMALL VOICE.

## **3. THERE WAS A SHORT TURNING POINT IN THE NATION AFTER THIS. IT WAS NOT A WHOLESAL REVIVAL, BUT THE 7000 CAME OUT OF THE CLOSET.**

What we have in this nation today is that the ungodly crowd has come out of the closet, and the 7000 are now in the closet.

Where were the 7000? They were in hiding—running from Jezebel.

After this incident and in the days of Elisha there were schools of prophets everywhere. How did this happen? It has to be attributed to this turning point in Elijah's ministry.

I believe at this point Elijah focused his ministry on the remnant and stopped worrying about those who bowed the knee to Baal, for most of these there was no hope.

Today we are faced with this same dilemma.

There are some who, for them, their Christianity is just a show. They have no substance to their faith. One day they will say, "The Lord He is **The** GOD." Notice how they said he is "**the** god" Not that he is GOD .. like I have quoted for many years. They said he is THE GOD who won the contest.

I Kings 18:36 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

I Kings 18:37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

I Kings 18:38 Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

I Kings 18:39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, **The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.**

I Kings 18:40 And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

NOTE THE LORD HE IS THE GOD. MAYBE TOMORROW THERE IS ANOTHER!

They did not say the Lord is GOD! He is **THE** GOD.. he won the contest. A person may win a contest today, but will he win tomorrow's contest?

It was just a contest. It was just a show. And these people constantly would need another—and another show.

Years ago we would have big DVBS programs, but you can't have a big program every week unless you do what a Joel Osteen church does and charge for tickets. Again, church just becomes a lot of show: empty fire, thunder, and earthquakes with no still small voice.

To the nation Elijah just put on a good show, but when they went home there was no still small voice in their hearts.

When I first got saved a friend took me to one of the Jesus People Concerts—this was when Christian Rock was just starting, and the members of the band gave testimonies.

I'll never forget the testimony of the drummer who said, "When I get home in between concerts I often get depressed, but every time I get to play in another worship service, my spirits are lifted and I get back on my feet and want to serve God."

Do you know what he was saying? He depended on going from one concert to another to stay pumped up for God. I wonder how he would do if his back was beaten and he was put in prison for Jesus like the Apostle Paul.

What he said was he needed the WIND ... HE NEEDED AN EARTHQUAKE ... HE NEEDED THE FIRE. But Elijah learned God is not in these things. God can only be heard in the still small voice.

THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE WIND.  
THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE EARTHQUAKE.  
THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE FIRE.

When we left the concert my friend asked me what I thought.

I said, "It was watered down rock and roll."

To me it was like drinking near beer. I never drank beer because I liked the taste—what I liked was the effect. To me Christian Rock was like near beer. Back then I thought, "Why would I want to go back to that which never satisfied anyway?"

WHAT I NEEDED WAS THE STILL SMALL VOICE. THAT IS WHAT IMPRESSED ME.  
NOT THE THUNDER ...  
NOT THE WIND ...  
NOT THE FIRE ...

BUT THE LORD IS IN THE STILL SMALL VOICE.

Today most Christians are saying the same thing the nation said in the day of Elijah:

THE LORD HE IS THE GOD..  
THE LORD HE IS THE GOD...

For years I have misquoted this .. I thought they said.. THE LORD HE IS GOD..  
NO! THEY SAID THE LORD HE IS THE GOD. The God. What does that mean?

He won their vote for today.

Tomorrow they may vote differently. What America needs to know is that God is God whether they vote He is or He is not. What America needs is an Elijah to stand up to encourage the 7000 who have not bowed the knee to Baal.

Yesterday they bowed the knee to Baal. Today, like the nation Israel, the masses bow the knee to Jehovah. Who knows what will happen tomorrow? HE IS THE GOD TODAY. He called down lightning from heaven, but tomorrow when Jezebel stirs things up in the White House, He no longer is God. But we need to realize He is God no matter what the people might vote, or think, or say.

Years ago a fellow come to church whose wife left him. He loved his wife and said to me, "Preacher, I made a vow to God that if God gives me back my wife, I will go to church every week." (Isn't it wonderful to vow to the Lord to do something you are supposed to do anyway?) As we conversed he was sure his wife was just going through the change of life. As he

explained the circumstances, I said, "It sounds to me like she has another man in her life. He said, "No no .. she is just going through that change and is emotional and sensitive."

He came to church every week for about a month. After the month he wasn't there, and I went to visit him. When I saw him he said, "You were right; there is another man." After that, there seemed to be no hope to reconcile his marriage, and I never saw him in church again.

You see, the Lord for a short time was **THE** GOD, but circumstances changed, and now God fell out of grace in the eyes of this fellow, and God was no longer worth serving. How fickle people are! How about you? Is the Lord THE GOD for the moment or is HE GOD and GOD ALONE?

Are you trying to find God in Thunder, in the Fire, in the Earthquake? He is not in these things. You will only find Him in that **Still Small Voice.**