

Character Study: Elijah
Part 1 – Elijah Stands Alone
I Kings 17:1

What's happening?

- *Elijah lived at a time when Ahab reigned as king over Israel. He was a very ungodly king who did not follow the ways of the Lord. He married Jezebel (the daughter of the King of Sidon) and began worshipping Baal. He even had a temple built for Baal in Samaria, the capital city of Israel. (16:29-32)*
- *King Ahab had done more to provoke the Lord to anger than all the kings that had come before him. This set the stage for a very dark time in Israel's history. (16:33)*
- *It was during this time that God raised up Elijah to be His spokesman. Elijah was from a small town named Tishbeh and therefore he was probably not very well known. (17:1)*
- *God had Elijah tell King Ahab that there would be a drought coming to the land of Israel. God's judgment would be coming soon. (17:1)*

What's God doing?

> *Israel had moved away from being obedient to God. In response, God took a "no-name" man from a "no-name" town and made him a prophet that would speak on His behalf. From a human perspective, Elijah would have been an unlikely candidate for such an important job, but what God looks for in a person is not based on a human perspective!*

What's to learn?

- *When God uses people to accomplish His will, He does not select people based on their talents and popularity. Rather, He desires individuals who are tough, courageous and willing to stand up for His truth!*
- *Elijah was not comfortable fitting in with those around him who lived in darkness. He boldly stood up for what was right, regardless of the fact that he might be the only one to do so. Are we willing to do the same?*
- *Elijah lived in a time when evil prevailed and the need for a godly leader what great. As we look around at our culture today, it becomes obvious that the need for godly leaders is still great today.*

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