

THE POWER OF GOD AND THE FRAILITY OF ELIJAH

1 Kings 17 & 18

There are three main characters in this section: Ahab, Jezebel and Elijah. The Bible says Ahab did more wickedness than any other King before Him in Israel. He married Jezebel who introduced Baal worship in Israel and built temples to Baal. The third character is Elijah, the prophet.

This is a period where the people of Israel are in darkness, but the story highlights only the leaders. Books like 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings are in the Bible to teach us important lessons such as these: (1) Leadership matters. As the leader goes, so goes a nation. (2) God works in and through the leaders to serve the people. (3) Sometimes God is working against the leaders to save the people. (4) God is always working to preserve and protect His people, even though it may not be obvious sometimes.

**ELIJAH'S CAMPAIGN.**

Firstly, Elijah's campaign was to *call for clarity*. He challenged the people of Israel, "How long will you waver between two opinions?" We all need to come to a moment of clarity. With clarity in faith, we can have conviction in what we believe. And with conviction, we can gain confidence and strength to do what ought to be done.

Secondly, Elijah's campaign is a *call to worship* the true God. No one, after that contest of fire at Mount Carmel, came down wavering between two opinions, but with awe and worshipping the living God. We all need a moment of truth as powerful as that one.

**ELIJAH, THE MAN.**

Elijah was a man just like us (James 5). In what way was he just like us? He is a theatrical person. He likes sensationalism, with a tendency to exaggerate things. He lamented that he was the only prophet left in Israel. But we learn that there were other prophets God had preserved. If he had said "I am the only prophet prophesying at this moment", that would have been truer.

He was a bit emotionally unreliable. One moment he was up in arms and breathing fire and confidence, and another moment (in chapter 19) he is depressed and almost suicidal.

He grossly miscalculated his victory against Jezebel. After the contest he expected Jezebel to be on her knees asking for mercy but he finds her vowing to kill him.

**WHAT ELIJAH DID DIFFERENTLY.**

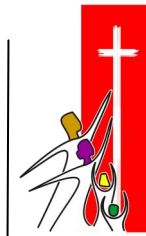
Elijah was a man just like us. But he did things differently, and that is all that mattered. If we can resolve to do things differently, we will be among the 3% of Christians who can change situations around us.

- (1) *He believed.* He truly believed that to obey God is better than to please the world.
- (2) *He Prayed.* New Testament remembers him as a man whose prayer changed the world.
- (3) *He declared* the Word of God, the truth of God.
- (4) *He acted and demonstrated* the power of God.
- (5) *He Hoped* (1 Kings 18:41-44). We are a people of hope. In a situation like ours today, we need to ask: *What does hope look like? How does hope act? What does hope do?*

**CONCLUSION.**

Elijah was a man just like us. That means that we can also become just like Elijah, if we have the courage to do things differently like he did. But the message of the Bible is much more than that. We are promised Jesus Himself. He is our life, not just our hope. Jesus Christ *became* a man just like us, so that we can also become just like Jesus.

- Pastor Kedo Peseyie



CHRIST THE POWER OF GOD AND THE WISDOM OF GOD

# City Church

**VISION statement of the City Church:**

*City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.*

**AIMS of the City Church:**

**Worship:** *To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.*

**Fellowship:** *To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.*

**Evangelism:** *To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God's great salvation.*

**Discipleship:** *To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.*

**Mission:** *To send out people in obedience to God's call and command to reach the un-reached for Christ.*

**Today's Service**

- Leader : Kechanguno
- Speaker : Pastor Kedo Peseyie
- Pianist : Vizolenuo Solo
- Ushers : Nula Jamir & Orenvungi
- Flower : Athem Longkumer

Praise & Worship  
Welcome & Announcement

**Reading: Revive us Again (Psalm 85)**

- Mass Prayer (i) Your personal concerns  
(ii) Church ministry concerns
- Hymn **No. 6** : Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
- Offertory
- Message
- Lord's Supper
- Hymn **No. 7** : Crown Him with Many Crowns
- Benediction

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for his blessings upon the Sunday school ministry of our church. Continue to uphold the ministry as it resumes today.
- Pray that genuine repentance would take place among our people bringing God's forgiveness and healing in our land.
- Pray for the present situation in the state, remembering political leader, church leaders and the leaders of various organisations that they may seek God's leading.
- Pray for God's protection upon each worshipper of our church and for those who are away from us.

## REVIVE US AGAIN

### Psalm 85

Lord, you were favorable to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.  
You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
you covered all their sin.  
You withdrew all your wrath;  
you turned from your hot anger.

Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
and put away your indignation toward us!  
Will you be angry with us forever?  
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?  
Will you not revive us again,  
that your people may rejoice in you?  
Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.  
Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.  
Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.  
Yes, the Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.  
Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.

- Meeting of all the members of different committees will be held immediately after the worship service. Everyone is requested to attend.
- Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study from 5pm to 6pm will continue as usual. Please do participate and also encourage friends to attend.
- To avail transportation for Sunday service, contact Mego Yalie @ 8131814116.
  - Women's fellowship resumes from 9th February at 4:30pm.

### Nagamese Fellowship

#### Fix your eyes on Jesus (Heb 12:1-3)

1. Let us run for Jesus: (a) Let us throw out all our weights or heavy burdens and run for the Lord. (b) Let us run with endurance till we reach the Lord, and till we complete our race.
2. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus: (a) He is the author of our faith, and perfecter of our life. (b) Let us run for the Lord and fix our eyes on Jesus.

- Robert

Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Tithes: ₹ 60,200 Offering: ₹ 13,042 Mission: ₹ 4,500 Nagamese: ₹ 236 Total: ₹ 77,978

#### Notes: