

1 Kings 18-19

Major Plot: **God is the only one true & powerful God whose sovereign purpose always prevails & who expects His people to remain faithful to Him**

1. Historical Narrative

Scene 1: ***God used Elijah to tell Ahab that He would cause the rain to fall (just as He used Elijah to tell Ahab about 2-3 years ago that He would send a drought)*** (18:1-2, 41-46)

- a. God used Obadiah, Ahab's servant (who sought after God) to bring about the meeting between Elijah & Ahab (18:2-16)
- b. Elijah challenged Ahab & the Israelites to see that God is the One true God & thus to follow Him & forsake Baal (18:17-24)
 - i. The 450 prophets of Baal were unable to light up the sacrifice with fire from above despite their shouting & dancing (v.25-29)
 - ii. Elijah was able to call upon God to light up the sacrifice with fire from above despite the drenching of the altar (v.30-39)
 - iii. Elijah had all the prophets of Baal killed (hoping to eradicate Baal worship) (v.40)

Scene 2: ***Despite the clear display of God power (in sending fire & rain) & call to follow Him on Mount Carmel, Jezebel ordered that Elijah be killed instead*** (19:1-2)

Scene 3: ***Elijah ran for his life & fled to Sinai; he was in utter despair & there, he encountered God personally*** (19:3-4)

- i. God provided for Elijah's physical needs (v.5-9)
- ii. God affirmed Elijah of His presence (not in wind, earthquake or fire), the latter's mission & a faithful remnant (v.9-14, 18)
- iii. God directed Elijah to move ahead & anoint new kings or a new new prophet, Elisha, after him (v.15-17)

Scene 4: ***Elijah commissioned Elisha as instructed by God & the latter left everything & followed him to serve out God's mission*** (19:19-21)

2. Original Audience

To the Israelites during the exile & when they return from exile, they were to remember that God must remain the one whom they must worship, trust & obey fully & rightfully even when many might not acknowledge Him & that His sovereign purpose always prevails

3. Significance to Jesus Christ

In the person, Jesus we see how God's purpose prevails & what true obedience looks like. Being in Him, we too can trust in God's sovereign purpose which always prevail as well as to obey & stay faithful in every aspect of life, faith & ministry even though not everyone may be willing to do so