

# The Elijah Workbook



Manitoulin Youth  
Conference 2014

"How long halt ye between two opinions?"

1 Kings 18:21

Dear 2014 Youth Conference attendee,

As I'm sure you are well aware, this year's study will be focused around the life of the prophet Elijah. This is a fantastic study for a camp such as youth conference, as the narrative itself is intriguing and packed with action, yet there are so many powerful spiritual lessons to be learned from the record as well. Chances are you know the story of Elijah fairly well, especially if you were raised in Sunday School (and if this is your first look at the subject, I'm confident you will quickly fall in love with it). The objective of this workbook is to ensure that you are familiar with the record, first and foremost, but most importantly I want this workbook to facilitate your discoveries of the amazing themes, cameos, symbols, and messages hidden a couple of layers below the text. Our objective in constructing the questions was to get you to think about the text in ways you may not have before without leading you to my personal beliefs on the life of Elijah. As with all Bible study, we want the scriptures to interpret themselves, so if this workbook causes you to search the pages of scripture and perhaps see things a little different (hopefully more clearly) then our mission as the writers of this workbook has been achieved. The question nature and structure will hopefully also generate edifying and engaging discussion in the discussion groups as many questions will be approached differently by different attendees - this is where the true magic of Youth Conference takes place.

My one request is that you put the work into this study before you show up to Conference. Not only is the workbook completion mandatory for attendees, hopefully you will find it to be enjoyable and aptly prepare you to CONTRIBUTE to discussions on the subject once the week has started.

For this workbook you should have:

- Your personal Bible (preferably in a more literal translation - KJV, NKJV, ESV etc.) a lot of the points you discover in this study you will want to highlight and underline because they are so awesome!
- Strong's Concordance. Nowadays you can download apps with Strong's number searches. Take care to ensure you are getting the full definitions as some online concordances give minimal/basic information. When in doubt check the handy dandy hard copy.
- Access to multiple Bible translations. This information can be obtained online, however if you have the hard copies available you may wish to make notes in them as well.
- Access to a Bible atlas/Bible maps. While you can google search most things these days, a lot of biblical locations don't show up in these searches (ex. Tishbe, Brook Cherith). I found the Oxford KJV to have good maps, so if you don't use this bible yourself, someone in your ecclesia probably does.
- Pencil, Colouring pencils, Ruler. I won't dictate how or what you should mark in your Bible, the key with Bible marking is that it has to work for you. Keep with your existing colours and scheme for Bible marking - and if this is something new for you definitely use pencil =)
- The mind of Christ. Search for the hidden treasures
- My email.... if you have any questions (or frustrations) please let me know, I would love to be of assistance. My email is [drehynes@gmail.com](mailto:drehynes@gmail.com) - please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions.

Finally, credit is owed to the brethren who wrote the initial Elijah workbook in 1995. Some sections of this workbook are directly from that workbook (1kings 21, 2kings 1,2) so you may notice a slightly different style used in these sections.

Thank you for your interest in this subject, I pray that God will bless you studies into the life of this amazing man!

Love in Christ Jesus,

Bro. Andrew Hynes

## Section 1 - 1 Kings 16

1. In 1Kings 16:23 Omri begins reigning in Israel. How many kings have occupied the throne of Israel since the death of Solomon?
  
2. How many years has it been since Solomon's death?
  
3. How has the nation of Israel fared in the years since Solomon?
  
4. Compare and contrast the political & spiritual environment in Israel and Judah:
  - a. Consider the number of kings in both jurisdictions
  - b. Consider the quality of the kings since Solomon
  
5. Consider the meaning of 'OMRI' (Strong's H6018). How is this fitting considering statements made in v24 & 25?
  
6. Considering verse 25 how is the nation spirituality trending? Explain.
  
7. Verse 28 - What does 'AHAB' (H0256) mean? With reference to v30 how did Ahab fulfill this meaning?

8. Explain the steps Ahab takes in serving Baal in verses 31 and 32.
9. Verse 31 introduces Jezebel - one of the most notorious women in scripture. Briefly describe how the following verses portray her:
- 2 Kings 9:22
  - 2 Kings 9:36-37
  - Rev 2:20
10. Clearly Jezebel had an enormous impact on Ahab and therefore the kingdom. Consider the following verse: 1Kings 21:25
- a) How is “stirred up” translated elsewhere in scripture? Do you think this is the best translation here? How would you word this verse based on these findings?
- b) This verse says that Ahab “sold himself to work wickedness”. How did Ahab do this? What did Ahab sell? What does this imply?
11. 1 Chron 16:32 - What does ‘Baal’ mean in it’s simplest definition? How do you think this played into Israel’s confusion over who was Lord? Consider the apostasy of Jeroboam.

12. Verse 33 - What is the definition of 'GROVE' (H0842)? Is this different from "Baal"?

13. Consider 2 Kings 3:13 and 1 Kings 18:19.

a. Are these two different Gods?

b. Who influences each deity from the throne?

c. How does this fit with the character of Jezebel and what she represented?

14. Verse 33 - How was it that Ahab "provoked" the Lord more than all his predecessors? What does this imply?

15. Verse 34 - Read this verse from the ESV (English Standard Version).

a. What is happening here?

b. Why is this seemingly random point brought up here? (Consider what the defeat of Jericho represented in relation to the conquest of the land of Canaan, and the state of the land in the days of Ahab.)

16. Consider Joshua 6:26 - Was the prophecy completely fulfilled?



## Section 2 – 1 Kings 17

For this section please locate and identify the following locations on the map found in appendix A:

Samaria  
Gilead  
Tishbe  
Brook Cherith  
Zaraphath

1. Verse 1 introduces us to Elijah the Tishbite. He is noted to be an “inhabitant” of “Gilead”. Examine the meaning of these two words. (See Genesis 23:4 & Leviticus 25:23 to develop your thoughts)
2. To which tribes was the land of Gilead given as an inheritance?
3. What sort of people came from Gilead? (1 Chron.12:8-15)
4. What do you think Elijah looked like as he appears before Ahab in v1? (Consider 2 Kings 1:8 in your response.)

5. How would Elijah have been a contrast to Ahab at this time? Consider both spiritual and physical traits.
  
6. What does "ELIJAH" mean? From your knowledge of the story of Elijah, how is this pertinent?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Describe how Elijah is introduced to the story. Have we been introduced to him prior? What do we know about him thus far?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Consider your answer to the previous question - Do you think this is at all a reflection of the character and spirit of Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What is the announcement that Elijah makes to Ahab?





15. Verse 5 says “and he went”. What further insight do we have of Elijah upon reading verses 2-5?
  
16. Verse 6 says that Elijah was fed flesh by ravens. What does the Law of Moses tell us about scavengers?
  
17. What type of “flesh” do you envision this to be? (There is no right or wrong answers...but use your imagination)
  
18. Consider Acts 10:12-15. Why do you think Elijah was fed this way?
  
19. Verse 7 says that eventually the brook dried up. Discuss how this is a symbol of what has happened in Israel over the last 60 years.

For this section please complete the following on the map found in appendix A:

Draw a line from Samaria to the Brook Cherith. Indicate the distance of this line in either Kms or Miles

Draw a line from the Brook Cherith to Zaraphath. Indicate the distance on your line.

20. Verse 9 God now makes another request to Elijah. How has his experience in Cherith prepared him for this command?

21. Where was Elijah commanded to go?

- What is the meaning of this place's name? Consider the relevance.

22. List 2 good reasons why Elijah would not want to obey this command (there are many reasons - think of the top 2).

a.

b.

23. If you have not used this as part of your answer in #20, what current infamous person hailed from this region?

24. How far is the journey from Cherith to Zidon?

25. How would this command have tried Elijah's faith, bearing in mind the brook has dried up due to drought?

26. Verse 10 - What is Elijah's response?

c. Does this reinforce anything about his character?

27. Considering Elijah's journey, how hungry and thirsty is Elijah?

28. Who is he dependent on for food? How does this relate to Cherith?

29. Discuss Elijah's faith and vulnerability in this circumstance.

30. Verse 10 - Elijah has completed the journey from Cherith to Zaraphath in the middle of a severe drought. Upon arriving what does Elijah see?

31. Where does he see the widow woman?

32. What is special about this part of a city? Provide scriptural support.

33. What would Elijah's physical condition be as he approached the city?

34. What does he ask from the woman? How would this support your answer to question 37?

35. Verse 11 - What else does Elijah request from the woman?

36. What is her response?

37. Do you think Elijah would have expected this response?

38. Verse 13-14. How is Elijah's reply in these verses as much of an act of faith for him as it is for the woman?

39. Verse 15 - How is the woman like Elijah (based on your observations of this verse)?
40. How long do the widow and her family enjoy the benefits of v16?
41. Verse 17 - The son falls ill. In this verse the woman is not referred to as a widow - what is she referred to as here?
42. Verse 18 - To what does the woman attribute the death of her child?
43. Lets look closer at this woman. Find the Strong's meaning for the word 'MISTRESS'.
44. This exact Hebrew word is used in only 2 other places in scripture 1 Sam 28:7 and Nahum 3:4. How is it translated in these places?
- -
45. What is the implied meaning behind the word 'mistress'?
46. Read v18 again carefully. What impact has Elijah's stay had on the lifestyle of this woman?

47. Verse 18 begins a series of verses whose events strongly mirror the atoning work of Christ. Please complete the table below noting all the similarities. Consider the following in your chart:

- Status of the sons
- Parental situation - Natural and spiritual
- Abiding places of the spiritual “fathers”
- Who sinned, who died
- How long was it before they were raised?
- What is the effect of the resurrection on those close to the dead?

\* It’s ok if you can’t fill all the boxes; however try to put as many ideas as you can.

| Elijah and the widow | Jesus Christ |
|----------------------|--------------|
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|                      |              |
|                      |              |
|                      |              |
|                      |              |
|                      |              |

48. In addition to the table you just completed - please elaborate on the principle/concept that is being conveyed through these words/phrases.

- “Give me thy Son. And he took him out of her bosom...” v19
  
- “Stretched himself upon the child three times...” v21
  
- “revived” v22
  
- “Brought him down” v23

49. In this verse the woman makes a statement of faith. Did she have faith before this event?

50. Did she express doubts in the past (v18 - think about this)?

51. In the context of the effect Elijah has had on this woman’s life, how does this verse summarize the progression of faith in this woman’s life? Use specific examples.



52. Imagine you are Elijah. In the wake of this amazing miracle, how would he have viewed his trip to Zarephath?

53. Explain how Elijah would have become an integral part of this small family as time passed (especially for the young boy).

54. By the time God calls Elijah again three and a half years have passed. Explain how this is already the climax of Elijah's mission through what he has accomplished in this chapter. Add to your answer after completing the study in chapter 19.

55. Jesus refers to this widow in his teaching. What does he say about her?

56. Is there anything to be gained from the observation of the change in the woman's title in this chapter? "Widow Woman", "Mistress", and then finally "Woman".

**Section 3 - 1 Kings 18**

For this section please locate and identify the following locations on the map found in appendix A:

Mount Carmel  
Jezreel  
River Kishon

1. Verse 1 - What does “many days” mean in this verse? Compare with what is said in the Margin. Your thoughts?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How long has Elijah been out of the country at this point?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How is the famine described in Verse 2?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Consider Obadiah: What does his name mean?
  - a. How do his actions exemplify this?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How does his name meaning play into his role in the king’s house? Consider his role.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Notice verse 3; what makes Obadiah’s actions of hiding the prophets so amazing? Consider logistics, scarcity, etc.

7. What conclusions can we draw from verse 5 about the severity of the famine?
  
8. Verse 6 - Explain the added layer to this verse. What does one's way typify in scripture?
  
9. Carefully read verse 7 in the KJV. What do you make of Obadiah's question, "Art thou THAT my Lord Elijah?" Consider the content of verse 10 as well.
  
10. Consider Elijah's abrupt orders to Obadiah. What can this tell us about:
  - a. Elijah's attitude towards all Israel/Ahab?
  
  
  - b. Elijah's attitude towards Obadiah?
  
11. Do you think this was the extent of their conversation, in the context and setting of Ch 18?
  
12. Verse 9-10: Why do you think Ahab never could find Elijah? (Besides the fact that God was with Elijah)



19. Verses 17-18: Consider and comment briefly on the following aspects of the discourse between Ahab and Elijah: 1. Accusations of Ahab, 2. Rebuttal by Elijah, 3. Lack of further rebuttal from Ahab. Make some observations of how telling this discourse really is.

20. Verse 19 - What are the two types of prophets outlined in this verse?

a. How many are there of each group?

21. What can we learn from the phrase "which eat at Jezebel's table"? Was not Jezebel's table the same as Ahab's? (See 2 Kings 3:13)

22. To which God does the term, "GROVES" refer? Look at the Strong's word meaning; research your findings further (Encyclopedia, Wikipedia etc.)

b. How does this relate to Jezebel? How has she been an influence here?

23. Contrast these numbers with the killing of the true prophets.

24. Verse 20 - For what reasons may Ahab have complied to the request of Elijah to gather all the people?
25. Verse 21-22: The people of Israel halted between two opinions. Explain how this could be the case when the truth was essentially illegal?
- a. How is this a lesson for us?
  - b. List two ways we can halt between serving Yahweh and other “gods”.
26. Verse 22 - “The prophets of Baal are 450”, who’s missing/not mentioned? Why?
27. Although there were "many" prophets of Baal, does that mean that their form of worship was right? What are we told in the New Testament about the view of the majority? (Matt.7:13; 22:14)
28. Research who Baal is. How does this contest cater to his “power”? How does it work against him (i.e. in what he stands for/represents)?



35. Verses 25-27: Hours elapse as the prophets of Baal call upon their god. How do you think the crowd would have reacted to this? What about Elijah (outside of his comments)? Describe how you envision the crowd's reaction as time went on.
  
36. Verse 28 - How does the physical mutilation inflicted by Baal's prophets speak to a deeper spiritual significance?
  
37. Would these prophets now be clean or unclean? Consider the deeper significance.
  
38. What was the net result of their efforts? Describe the prophet's state now vs. when they started hours before. What have they got to show for their efforts?
  - a. Find a fitting verse that speaks to the futility of man's ways/nature.
  
39. Do you think that "nor any who regarded" speaks to the diminishing enthusiasm from the crowd? Describe the deflating sensation this would have had on the people and the prophets.
  
40. How has Elijah created this dramatic setting as he now takes his turn?
  
41. Verse 30 - "come near to me" What is Elijah doing here. Consider Luke 13:34.



42. Consider the word 'repaired in this verse - what does the Strong's meaning imply?

b. How does this speak to what Elijah is trying to achieve here?

43. Consider the state of the nation now (10 tribes in the north, 2 in the south), what implications are to be gained from Elijah's construction of his altar?

44. Elijah then proceeds to make a trench around the altar. Again, consider the meaning to this word TRENCH (H8585) - How else is it translated? Do you see any connection to the word 'repair'?

45. Elijah then orders water to be poured on the sacrifice. Explain how this would have complicated things. Where were they to get the water?

a. How many barrels of water end up over the sacrifice? Significance?

46. What type of sacrifice is Elijah performing? Leviticus 1:1-9

47. What does the water symbolize here?

48. What is the broader meaning for the nation at this time? Consider Psalm 51, Jeremiah 31:33.
  
49. What do you think the people were thinking at this time? What was Elijah thinking?
  
50. What are the two things Elijah requests that God prove in verse 36?
  
51. Note that Elijah distances himself in v37 from the people. List some spiritual leaders in scripture that counted themselves among the sinful nation? (What are we being shown?)
  - b. What effect does Elijah pray God would have on Israel's heart? What is the practical lesson for us?
  
52. Verse 38 - Describe the fire that would have descended from heaven in this verse.
  
53. Verse 39 says that the people FELL on their faces. What does this word imply? What effect had the fire had on them?
  
54. Compare what the people shout in v39 with the meaning of Elijah's name.

55. Consider the events of Elijah's sacrifice. Take a few minutes elaborate on the greater spiritual significance of the events that have transpired.

56. Elijah, after a resounding answer from God then orders the prophets of Baal to be put to death. Read Deut 13:1-9 and consider Elijah's objective with the nation now that they have acknowledged God?

57. Elijah then prays for the rain - why does God not send it at Elijah's first request?

a. From a spiritual level what would the rain (and heavy rain at that) finally coming symbolize?

b. Find a verse in Isaiah, which speaks about what the rains represent. Write it out here.

58. Elijah then runs before Ahab to Jezreel. Why does Elijah do this?

59. Think back to the beginning of the day for Elijah - explain the monumental events he has accomplished in the last 24 hours.

60. How has Elijah reconciled the nation back to their God (at least in type), through the events of this day?

#### Section 4 - 1 Kings 19

For this section please locate and identify the following locations on the map found in appendix A:

Beersheba  
Israel/Judah border

Draw a line from Jezreel to Beersheba and indicate distance.

1. Verse 1 - This chapter begins with Ahab telling Jezebel about the events of Ch 18. How does ch19:1 reflect Ahab's opinion of what has happened?
2. How does he bring up the outcome of events with Jezebel?

3. What does he omit? Why?

4. Verse 2 - Describe how Elijah would have felt after ch18 and contrast that with how he must have felt after receiving the message of v2.

5. How is v2 indicative of how the nation is governed and how is really in control on the throne?

6. Verse 3 in the KJV calls out one of the 5 senses. Explain its relevance here, and explain its relevance in Ch18.

7. How far is the journey from Jezreel to Beer-Sheba?

8. Elijah leaves his servant in Beer-Sheba. Are we told of this servant anywhere else? What is the significance of the record highlighting this fact?

9. Verse 4 - Elijah requests to die. Why?

10. Consider what Elijah says, "I am not better than my fathers". What does Elijah mean by this?

10. How was he exhibiting the wrong attitude here?

11. Again consider the contrast between Ch 19:4 and Ch18:46:

12. Verse 5 - When else had Elijah been miraculously fed?

13. Each time this happens in Elijah's life God is sending his prophet a message. What message is God sending here? Consider v5 and v7.



19. List 5 major events in Israel's history that happened on or near this mountain.

20. Based on the past chapter, why does Elijah choose to go to this location?

21. Verse 9 - Bible Scholars are in agreement that "a cave" should be translated "THE cave" (using the definite article). Which cave is being referred to here?

22. Examine God's question to Elijah at the end of this verse. Where is the emphasis and what is God really asking Elijah?



Compare and contrast Moses’ response to a similar question, with what Elijah says here.

| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOSES</b><br/>- Exodus 32 -</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ELIJAH</b><br/>- 1 Kings 19 -</p>        |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">The people have sinned</p>         |  |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;">Elijah Intercedes <i>against</i> Israel</p> |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;">“I, even I only am left”</p>                |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Willing to die for the people</p>  |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Pleads for forgiveness</p>         |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">God proclaims Judgment</p>         | <p style="text-align: center;">God Proclaims Judgment</p>                  |

24. Which title of Yahweh is used in v10? Why does Elijah address God this way?

25. How do we already know that Elijah is not the only one left in Israel who is faithful?

26. What Forces of nature does God use in v11&12.

27. These forces have symbolic meaning throughout scripture - list the symbology behind each force.

28. What does it mean that, "God was not in the (earthquake, wind, fire)"? Surely God's power had caused it.

29. Will there be a time when God's power will be manifested in these elements? Provide scriptural references supporting your answer.

a. How can this be true in the context of question 28?

b. How is this a lesson to Elijah and the work he has with the nation?

30. Describe Israel's reactions to such natural forces - as seen in Exodus 19, 20:19.

31. Consider God's command in v11 and Elijah's reaction in v13. What has been the effect of the 3 mighty forces on Elijah?

32. How Does Elijah react to the still small voice?

a. What does this still small voice say to Elijah?

b. What are some other translations of 'still small voice'?

33. What is the lesson of the still small voice - what is it a symbol of?

34. How was God not in the fire of Chapter 18:38?

35. Verse 10 is repeated in verse 14 - Has Elijah understood the lesson God is trying to teach him?

36. How does v15-17 address the concerns of Elijah?
  
37. Consider God's character in reference to the previous question (Ex 34:5-6)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
38. How does verse 18 read when we use the ESV? How does the still small voice play a role here?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
39. How has Elijah misunderstood his mission as a prophet?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
40. 3 Things are commissioned of Elijah in v15-17. How many does he end up completing?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
41. Consider 1 Kings 18:31 - what is the connection to 1 Kings 19:19? What is the message here?

42. What was God's command to Elijah regarding Elisha? Has v19 fulfilled this?
43. Are there any indicators here that Elijah has learned from his experiences in Horeb?  
(Comment on any indications found in this chapter as well)
44. After ch18 Elijah does not address the nation as a whole again. How is this fitting given the lessons of these recent events in his life?

### Section 5 - 1 Kings 21

1. As with most names in scripture the meanings have significance in relation to the person or place. Look up the Strong's meaning of the name *Naboth* and *Jezreel*.
  
2. What significance is seen from these meanings as relating to "*Naboth the Jezreelite*"?
  
3. How does the fact that the story revolves around a vineyard further enhance the spiritual significance? Ex. Matt 21:43
  
4. Comment on the importance of this phrase "hard by the palace". What does it tell us about the environment surrounding Naboth's vineyard. Use Scriptures to support your answer.
  
5. With all the evil influences around him, Naboth was able to maintain his integrity towards God's law. What lessons can we gain from this in relation to:
  - Our walk in the Truth and society around us?

- Raising children with so many evil influences around them?

6. (V2) Under the Law, what commandment was Ahab breaking?

7. Using the parable in Luke 12:16-21, comment on what we can learn about the pursuit of the wrong things in life.

8. What did Ahab want to do with Naboth's vineyard? Explain

9. Describe the connotation of a garden of herbs: Deut 11:10-12. Compare the purpose of a garden of herbs vs. a vineyard.

10. Why would Naboth turn down the offer of the king when it seemed more than reasonable? Explain your answer in detail, using scripture to support your conclusions. What does Naboth's response tell us about his character?

11. Under the law God made provision for those who had sold their possessions to get them back in the year of Jubilee. Discuss whether Naboth should have considered this option. Support your conclusions by referring to the purpose of the year of Jubilee.

12. Define and analyze the Hebrew words for:

- 'Heavy' (#5620) -
- 'Displeased' (#2198) -

13. Based on the meanings of these words, what has Ahab learned about dealing with God when you are unrighteous? Consider the events that have transpired in his life, and how God has shown his judgments to Ahab. (I Kings 18:38-46, 20:29,43)

14. Ahab recognized the conviction of Naboth's faith and the consequences of defying God, so his displeasure with Naboth's answer was not surprising.

- Why are these words used in vs. 4?



15. Of what type of person does Ahab's reaction remind us of? What does his reaction show us about his character?

16. Ahab acts like a spoiled child who fails to get his own way. He reacts by pouting and having acting glum. There was a reason for his actions, and that was to draw a response from Jezebel.

- How do we react when we don't get what we want from others? How about when we don't get what we prayed for from God?

*Extra: Examine the power of prayer, how it can be used in our lives, and the dangers of not using it properly.*

17. Cite some examples of others who didn't eat because of sorrow. There are some powerful lessons to be gained from fasting when fasting is used in the proper frame of mind. What are some of those lessons?

*Exhortation for Us (Discussion Questions)*

18. How can we apply the example of Naboth in our lives?

19. Naboth had to be familiar with the laws of God in order to make the stand that he did. What can we learn from this great man?

*V5-11*

20. Describe the scene as Jezebel faces Ahab and asks him what is wrong.

21. Is there any difference between what Ahab tells Jezebel and what was really said by Naboth?

22. Ahab portrays Naboth's refusal as though Naboth rejected the request without reason (not that the reason given would have mattered to Jezebel). Ahab misrepresented what Naboth had said. Explain the consequences of lying when we consider Acts 5:3-10. How does God view lying? What lessons are there for us? Use scriptures to support your answer.

23. God requires Truth in word and deed. Summarize Prov. 12:17-22

24. What is evidently the priority in life for Jezebel when she tells Ahab to "let thine heart be merry"?

*Notice the confidence with which Jezebel tells Ahab "I will give it thee". There is a boastful arrogance about the statement and Jezebel would have seen this as a chance to oppose God, not knowing how faithful Naboth was to his God.*

25. Compare Jezebel with the woman described in Prov. 31. Focus particularly on verse 16.

26. People in authority such as Jezebel have to be able to control themselves in order not to abuse their position. Jezebel was about to use her position to benefit herself, and to do what was evil in God's eyes. What other people abused their authority to get what they wanted despite the fact that it was evil in God's eyes? What lessons are there in this for us?

27. There are also examples in scripture of people who used their position in life to the benefit the Truth. Cite some examples and the lessons that we can learn from them.

28. Jezebel used the king's seal for the letters. Use other examples of the king's seal in scripture to explain the significance of what she did.

29. Suggest whom the nobles and elders might have been.

30. Jezebel said to "Proclaim a fast". In scripture why were fasts called? Hint (I Sam 7:6.)

31. What is the significance of having two witnesses? What does it mean that they were "sons of Belial"? Where else do we see these type of men mentioned?

32. Why was the charge of blasphemy used? What was to be done to blasphemers under the law?

33. Based on your answers to Q31 and Q32, was it possible that Jezebel was "play acting" what the Law instructed concerning blasphemy?

34. What is hypocrisy? Was Jezebel being a hypocrite? What lessons can we apply in our lives concerning hypocrisy?

35. Was Naboth the only one slain? If not, who and why were others slain?

*V12-16*

36. Given what we know about Naboth, describe what you think his mind set would be upon hearing the accusation. Compare Jesus' and Stephen's statements just before they died.

37. Using scriptural references; show the exhortation and comfort that we should have when we are persecuted for the Truth's sake.

38. Comment on the words from Ps. 116:15 in relation to Naboth.

39. It is interesting to note that Ahab stands apart from the events transpiring under the command of Jezebel as if he was to escape blame. But God knows the thoughts and intents of the heart, and so Ahab would not go unpunished.

*V17-24*

*It had been some time since Ahab had seen Elijah, and Ahab probably had put out of his mind those events which had taken place on Mt. Carmel. We have no record where Elijah was when the word of the LORD came to him, but it would have been soon after his calling of Elisha*

40. Where was Naboth's vineyard? What is "which is in Samaria" referring to?

41. "Hast thou killed and taken possession?" The immediate response from Ahab would be "No", because Jezebel was the instigator. So why was this question being asked?

42. When we consider the words in Mat.5, particularly vs. 21-22, we realize why Ahab was considered a murderer of Naboth. What lessons are contained therein for us?

43. What well-known, righteous king killed and took possession as well? Compare the two kings and the judgments brought upon them for the deeds that they did.

44. What is the significance of the dogs licking the blood?

45. Where did the dogs lick the blood of Naboth? Was the prophecy made in vs. 19 fulfilled, then, in 22:38? Explain.

46. "Hast thou found me O mine enemy?" It would seem strange that Ahab would have spoken these words when the last time they saw each other was after the contest on Mt. Carmel and Elijah had run before Ahab's chariot. Explain.

47. What is significant about the phrase "sold thyself" when we compare it to Rom. 6:16, 7:14? Explain the lessons for us.

48. Judas Iscariot also sold himself to sin. Explain.

49. Everything that takes place is done in the sight of God. How would the words of Psalm 139 been appropriate for Ahab?

50. Ahab was not alone when Elijah met him. Who was with him? Consider II Kings 9:25. Explain the irony.

51. "And him that is shut up and left in Israel." What is the meaning of this phrase? Use scriptures to support your answer.

52. Compare Jeroboam, Baasha and Ahab and the works for which they are notorious. What characteristics of God are evident when we ponder the judgments that are brought upon these men?

53. What does this teach us about God's attitude towards sin and its seed? Relate this to Gen 3:15.

*God will eventually cut off the posterity of sin, so we must make sure that we are the sons of God, and not of the seed of the serpent.*

54. What does the wall of Jezreel refer to?

55. Why is it significant that the details in verse 24 regarding the death of descendants are mentioned? Hint: What would normally happen when a seed royal died?

*V25-29*

56. What was it about Ahab that made him fit the description given in v. 25?

57. What is another word for “stirred up”? Explain how it would be more appropriate here.



Consider the following:

- *Ahab married Jezebel and immediately committed idolatry.*
- *After the contest on Mt. Carmel he participated in slaying of the prophets of Baal*
- *Upon confronting Jezebel he blamed Elijah for what had happened.*
- *He was servant to Benhadad until God intervened*

*It is very easy to be seduced and bought by sin. Consider David and Bathsheba, Solomon and his wives, Ananias and Sapphira. Everyone succumbs to sin on occasion. The difference is in what we do to recover from our mistakes. David repented and continued his life of service to God. Others simply are overcome by the evil. We need to ask ourselves which characteristics we are manifesting in our lives.*

58. Define and analyze the Hebrew word for:

- 'stirred up' (#5496) -

59. Give a modern day example of Jezebel and Ahab?

*Ahab committed idolatry and also forced the people into similar sins. This would have caused immense jealousy with God. Ex. 20:5, Deut. 4:24, 5:9, 6:15*

60. What lessons can be gained for those of us who are leading the flock of God? What does this tell us of our responsibility to God's ecclesia?

61. Who were the Amorites? Why would they be mentioned here?

62. What does Ahab's reaction to the judgment tell us about his knowledge of God?

63. It seems that Ahab's reaction was far more receptive now than it was when he was told of his impending death in I Kings 20:42-43. Why would this be?

64. Upon Ahab's repentance we see an unexpected turn in events. What characteristic of God is brought out here? See Mic. 7:18

65. What comfort can we take in this?

### **Section 6 - 2 Kings 1**

1. What would have been the relationship between Israel and Moab? Based on this, what happened in the rebellion? See ch. 3:4

- Where was Ahaziah when his accident happened?

*God was working in Ahaziah's life to help him to recognize who the true God was by causing the Moabites to rebel against him. Then followed the accident in the chamber; but like his father before him, he failed to recognize the true God of Israel.*

2. What do we know about the city of Ekron in scripture?

3. Why would Ahaziah call upon Baalzebub to find out whether or not he would recover?

4. Suggest reasons why we are not told about what Elijah does prior to being commissioned for assignment by God. (See I Kings 17:1, 18:1, 21:17, 2 Kings 1:3)

5. Give suggestions of what Elijah may have been doing between recorded incidents.

6. The message that the angel told Elijah to give is hard to understand. Explain the exact meaning of the words and in what manner they were to be spoken.

*Elijah, speaking the words of God, provides the answer to the question that Ahaziah was inquiring of Beelzebub.*

7. Cite some examples of rulers or kings who were given insight into who God was by God's ability to make known the future. (See Dan 4:25)

*The messengers would have been greatly troubled. Not only had their quest been interrupted by some strange looking man, but he had delivered news that the messengers would not have wanted to give to the king.*

8. Describe the reaction that you would imagine the messengers to have upon seeing Elijah. Keep in mind Elijah's appearance.

9. Elijah was unique in his physical appearance, and also in his spiritual attributes. What lessons can we learn from this?

10. Describe what Ahaziah would have been thinking as his messengers were relating to him their meeting with Elijah - especially when they mentioned the name of the true God of Israel.

*"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Lord". Ahaziah was about to understand this statement. It is hard to imagine people who know the Truth and yet are unable to accept it.*

11. Why was the king inquiring after the manner of the man?

12. Using your definition, explain exactly what the king was trying to find out about who the man was. Did the messengers give the king the answer he was seeking?

13. Suggest how Ahaziah knew that the man was Elijah. How would this have changed his feeling toward the validity of the message sent by Elijah?

14. Why is it significant that Elijah was a hairy man? Cite other scriptures to support your answer.

15. What is the significance of the leather girdle?

*Notice the reaction of the king upon discovering who it was that bore the message. He immediately executed a plan to get rid of Elijah so that Elijah's prophecy of his death would not come to pass.*

16. What did the king have planned when he sent the captain with his fifty to take Elijah? Is this similar to Mat. 26:55? Compare and contrast the two events.

17. Why does Elijah respond with the words and actions that he does?

18. Where else in scripture have people been consumed with fire? Why?

19. This incident is referred to by the Disciples of Christ. Explain the context of the reference and why Jesus rebuked them.

*On Mt. Carmel, the children of Israel learned that through a sacrifice the people can be saved; but here there was no sacrifice, rather a defiance of God, and all were destroyed.*

20. Word of the events would have reached Ahaziah quickly. What can we see about his fear of God and state of mind in that he immediately sent a second 50 with its captain? Was he thinking that the first was inadequate to perform the task they were given?

21. Comment on the second captain's request for Elijah to "Come down quickly". What was this captain's regard toward God?

22. Again, almost panicking, the king sends a third 50 and captain to take Elijah. Using the example of the third captain and other scriptures such as Acts 16:29, how should we approach unto God?

23. This captain set a great example of respecting the power of God above the dangers of disobeying the king and the shame of his humility. What lessons can we use in our lives when faced with trials and obeying God rather than man? Cite an example in your life where you had to make a stand for your beliefs.

*It is also noteworthy that the man is concerned for his 50, so he exhibited the good "shepherdly" instincts.*

24. Elijah, great man that he was, still needed encouragement to face trials, I Kings 19:1-8. Could Elijah possibly have been motivated by fear when he called for the fire on the two previous captains? Comment.

25. Point out exhortations that we can learn from realizing that even great men of the Bible had their weaknesses and failed in God's eyes.

*Note that when Elijah came before Ahaziah, he delivered the exact same message that he had asked the messengers to deliver.*

26. Do you think based on the comments in verse 18, that Ahaziah would have died from his wounds, had he not sought answers from Baalzebub?

27. Make a list of the prophecies that Elijah made; also note which were fulfilled during, or shortly after his lifetime.

28. Where did Jehoram come from? Why didn't Ahaziah's son assume the throne? Why is this important when we consider I Kings 21:21-29?

### **Section 7 - 2 Kings 2**

*Elijah is preparing for the passing of the torch to Elisha. We pick up again with Elisha in verse 1, not having had him mentioned since chapter 19.*

1. Suggest what Elisha would have been doing since his separation from Elijah.
2. Where is it located? Notice the terminology that is used "they went down to Bethel".
3. Who were the sons of the prophets?



4. Explain the phrase "take...from thy head today". (Additional versions may be helpful)

5. How would Elisha and the prophets have known that Elijah was to be taken away? How much did they really know about the details of how it was going to happen?

*There is probably a lot of similarity in how Christ had worked with his disciples and tried to explain to them that he was going to be taken away. The disciples never had a full understanding of what Christ meant until it happened. Similarly with Elijah, Elisha probably understood little of the events that were about to transpire.*

6. Why would Elijah have told Elisha to tarry at all the cities where they stopped? Who uttered similar words when asked to depart and return to her homeland?

7. When the prophets asked Elisha about Elijah's departing, he answered them rather abruptly. What does this tell us about the way Elisha felt?

8. What significant events took place at Jericho in scripture? Give references.

9. Suggest some reasons why these cities were the ones that were passed through by Elijah and Elisha.

10. Give some exhortation we can gain from the way Elisha stayed alongside of Elijah wherever he went.

11. How much time would have transpired during all this travel?

12. What would Elijah have been doing while they travelled together? Describe how we can utilize time that we spend travelling from place to place.

13. Who were the fifty men? What were they doing?

14. What significant events took place at the Jordan River? It is amazing when you compile a list to see how prominent the Jordan River is in Biblical times.

15. When else did events such as the one in verse 8 take place? Provide scriptures to support your answer. Was there any significance in this crossing?

16. What seems to be the significance of Elijah's mantle? Why did Elijah wrap his mantle?

17. Just before Elijah is to be taken away, he asks Elisha if there is anything that he can do for him. Define "spirit" in this case and use the definition in explaining exactly what Elisha was requesting.

18. Why was this a hard thing that was asked? Why would Elijah make the condition that Elisha had to witness his departing in order to have his request granted? Explain the exhortation for us.

19. What do you think they would have been talking about in verse 11?

20. Why is it significant that a chariot of fire would part the two of them? Many pictures depict Elijah ascending to heaven in the chariot. Was this the case?

21. What was the whirlwind? Suggest what happened to Elijah.

22. Words spoken by Elisha were also spoken at Elisha's death, II Kings 13:14. Why is this significant?

23. Elisha was a witness to Elijah's departing. Why is that significant? Why did he rend his clothes? Describe the feelings that Elisha would have as he saw Elijah disappear.

24. What is the significance of Elisha retrieving the mantle that fell from Elisha? What would this indicate to Elisha?

25. Explain why Elisha retraced the steps back to the Jordan and proceeded to do what Elijah had done. What was the meaning of his question? When the waters receded, what would Elisha's reaction have been?



4. What is the curse that is spoken of here?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How was John the Baptist's commission similar to that of Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What does it mean when it speaks about the spirit and power of Elijah? Explain, using quotes.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. When will Elijah make ready a people for the Lord? How did John perform the same work?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Was John the Baptist the fulfillment of Mal. 4? Explain your answer and provide evidence from scripture.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. John 1:21-23 - Why did the people ask John whether he was Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What does John's response tell us about Mal. 4?

11. In what sense were Elijah and John both voices in the wilderness? Look at it in both a literal and a spiritual sense.

12. Should we also be spiritual voices in today's wilderness? Explain the exhortation.

13. Mat. 17: 1-13 - Why were Moses and Elijah transfigured? What does that mean?

14. What were they discussing with Jesus?

15. What was the disciples' confusion in verse 10? Was Jesus contradicting John when he said that Elijah was come already? Explain.





**Appendix A**



**ADDITIONAL NOTES**