

# Week 3 Elijah the Prophet

## Wednesday Bible Study

### Elijah and Obadiah 1 Kings 18:1-15

#### 1. The Word of the LORD. Verses 1-2

Three years have passed and Elijah hears from God that he is going to allow it to rain. Interestingly there seems to be no indication of repentance on Ahab's part, or Jezebel's or the people. But God is going to take care of some things before it starts to rain. For some, (the prophets of Baal) who believed life would just continue the rain will be a doxology to their death. For others the rains will be showers of blessing. It all depends upon your relationship with God.

*Why do you think God wouldn't just make it rain? Why make Elijah go to Ahab?*

#### 2. God's Man— Obadiah. Verses 3-4

Obadiah had been strategically placed by the LORD as Administrator. The NIV refers to him as being devout. "He feared the LORD greatly". (KJV). This quality was shown in his actions. He has a tough assignment from the LORD but he is there to be the voice of God. He worked for an evil king and as Jesus has said, we are to be salt and light! (Matthew 5:13-14) Showing and living the truth and preserving as best as we can righteousness. God has people placed all throughout this country in key places— they are to be influencers and preservers of the good. You are where you are for good reason!

Obadiah feared God so much he hid Gods prophets from Jezebel. He feared God more than the retribution of the King or His wife. God's people are preservers of life. We think of Noah's mother how she hid him in a basket and the midwives of Egypt who "...feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. (Exodus 1:17). We also remember Rahab who hid away the Hebrew spies. (Jos 2:4-5) All believers are hidden in Christ. Colossians 3:1-4. We are safe and secure because of our oneness with Christ. Psalm 91:1-4. He is our eternal High Priest (Heb. 7:23-25). We are eternally secure. (Romans 8:31-38). Psalm 91:1-4

*Of what comfort is it that you are hidden in Christ?*

#### 3. Divine Appointments. 1 Kings 18:5—15

Vs 5-8 When God wants someone or something found— they or it will be found. When he wants something or someone missing— there is nothing you can do to override His will. (Rev. 3:7); Ecc. 3:6. There is a time to search and a time to give up!

Vs. 9-12 "where the Spirit of the Lord will carry you." Like the wind, the Holy Spirit goes wherever he pleases. (John 3:8) God does as He pleases. Obadiah is brave, but has his limits. He knows his king is hot-tempered and has been on a slow boil for 3 years. Elijah's name has become a curse word to Ahab and Jezebel— as we will see. Though he is afraid, he makes it clear that He worships the LORD. (This infers to us that he will serve the LORD and if need be He will tell Ahab about Elijah— though it cost him his life.

Vs 13-15— Obadiah tells Elijah of his work to protect the prophets of the LORD. Elijah reassures Obadiah that He will not disappear but will see Ahab that day.

Vs 16-17— Troubler of Israel. Not a new accusation against God's people. and one that will continue to this very day. 2 Kings 2:23-25; 2 Samuel 16:5-10

How do you deal with the false accusations of others? According to the Bible, what should our response be to these kinds of persecutions?