

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

I Kings 19

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And Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself traveled on a day's journey into the wilderness. He sat down under a broom tree and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." (v.19:4)

What a contrast we see in the life of a "champion" who had just experienced the greatest victory that any prophet could hope to have. This champion, Elijah the prophet of God, was the instrument that the God of Israel used to call the nation to repentance and to show His mighty power to a generation. Now this same prophet is afraid and running from a wicked woman who threatened to kill him and do to him what he did to her wicked prophets in the name of his God.

What happened? How could this happen? Could this happen to you? What happened is the same thing that happened to Moses and Jonah, just to name a couple. There are more I could bring to your attention in the Bible.

Moses, Jonah, and Elijah are all examples of great men of God that had experienced the power and presence of God like few in recorded history, yet after those experiences, prayed for God to take their life. These great men lost perspective! They succumbed to the load of work

physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. Each one had experienced God, but did not take time to rest, recover, obtain proper nourishment, and soon physically, emotionally, mentally, and yes, spiritually burned out!

Men of God and "Warriors," male and female alike, can feel they are invincible and irreplaceable. They are wrong on both accounts. If you are serving the Lord and experiencing great victories, beware! The very thing you condemn in others becomes your weakness. Through the centuries, it has been observed that "your strengths unguarded will become a double weakness to you!" What was Moses' strength? He was "cleared eyed and had the strength of his youth" even until the day he died. Yet his perspective was lost, and he could not see the forest for the trees and became tired and vulnerable. Elijah experienced the great victory of the enemy at Mt. Carmel and then ran 17 miles in front of King Ahab's chariot and became exhausted and vulnerable to the enemy's threats.

Prayer and Action Steps

Dear Lord, please help me to realize that I am a frail human being. I need proper rest, nourishment and exercise each day and not too much of any of those. Help me to be balanced. Help me to take time to "smell the roses" and spend time allowing you to "restore my soul" each day. Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____

