

## **A Place Called THERE**

### **Guidance is Rarely God's Audible Voice**

1. The still small voice is an inward knowing.
2. A knowing or understanding without an audible voice.

*"And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."*

*Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."*

*So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook. And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.*

*Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." So he arose and went to Zarephath." (1 Kings 17:1-10)*

### **Elijah's Public Ministry Began on Mount Carmel**

1. Elijah challenged the prophets publicly and saw fire fall with the multitudes.
2. He slew 400 prophets of Baal.
3. He saw all the people repent and turn back to God.
4. Elijah pronounced the end of the drought.
5. It rained hard.
6. Elijah outran Ahab's chariot.

### **We Are Often Prone to a Defeat After a Great Victory**

1. Jezebel sent a note she would kill Elijah like he had killed the prophets.
2. Elijah ran for his life.
3. God made Elijah a supernatural cake with supernatural water.
4. Elijah ran for forty days on the strength of the cand and water.

*“He himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, “It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!”*

*Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, “Arise and eat.” Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So, he ate and drank, and lay down again. And the angel of the Lord came back the second time, and touched him, and said, “Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.” So, he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.*

*And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”*

*So, he said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.”*

*Then He said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.*

*So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” (1 Kings 19:4-13)*

1. Elijah’s ministry was in Jerusalem and Judah.
2. For awhile Elijah was sent by God to a woman in Zidon (Gentile territory), who had faith to be fed in time of drought and famine.
3. He was sent during difficult times to the brook in Zidon.
4. In each case, provision was sent by God ahead of time to the place he would go.
5. He stayed at each place until God told him to move even though the provisions had dried up.
6. If times are difficult, don’t move until you heard from God.
7. If you jumped too quickly, go back to the last place God spoke to you. The last place you knew you were in His will.
8. God has NEVER led Elijah by a wind or earthquake but by the inward voice.
  - a. It is self-pity driving Elijah to look for the spectacular instead of the usual means of the supernatural.
  - b. Elijah is not the only one who has not bowed to Baal.
9. Until now, Elijah always moved from here to THERE. Now Elijah ran from THERE to here.
10. What are you doing HERE?