### 1 Kings

## Chapter 19

1Well, [when he got home], Ahab told his woman JezeBel (the one who had the prophets killed with swords) about everything that EliJah did.  
  
2So JezeBel sent [a message] to EliJah that said:  
  
 ‘May the gods curse me and add to it if by this time tomorrow your life won’t be the same as the lives [of the prophets I killed]!’  
  
3Well, this frightened EliJah, so he got up and ran for his life!  
  
  
And when he got to BeerSheba, he left his servant there 4and traveled along the desert road for a day’s journey, where [he spent the night] under a broom bush.  
  
That’s when he prayed for his life to end, saying:  
  
 ‘It’s now fitting for You to take my life, O Jehovah, because I’m no better than my ancestors!’  
  
5And after that, he bedded down and went to sleep under that bush.  
  
However, {Look!} someone then came and touched him and said:  
  
 ‘Now, get up and eat!’  
  
6And when he looked around, he saw a loaf of oat bread that had been baked in ashes lying next to his head, along with a jar of water... So EliJah got up and ate and drank, then he went back to sleep.  
  
7But the messenger of Jehovah returned a second time and touched him, saying:  
  
 ‘Get up and eat!  
  
 ‘You’ll need this for your long journey!’  
  
8So he got up and ate and drank again, and he gained enough strength from the food to last the whole trip of 40 days and 40 nights to the Dry Mountain (Horeb).  
  
9And when he got there, he went into a cave to rest.  
  
  
But then, {Look!} Jehovah sent word to him.  
  
He asked:  
  
 ‘Why are you here, EliJah?’  
  
10And EliJah replied:  
  
 ‘Because of my zeal… Because I’m zealous for Jehovah the Almighty.  
  
 ‘Yet, all the sons of IsraEl have abandoned You… They’ve cut down Your Altars and they’ve killed Your prophets with swords; so, now I’m the only one left, and they’re looking [to kill] me too!’  
  
11Then he was told:  
  
 ‘Go outside and stand on the mountain before Jehovah.  
  
 ‘There {Look!} the Lord will pass by you in a strong wind that will split the mountain and break its rocks.’  
  
[So he went outside and stood] before Jehovah, and the wind blew…  
But it wasn’t [just the] wind, it was Jehovah!  
  
Then after the wind blew, the ground shook…  
But it wasn’t an earthquake, it was Jehovah.  
  
12And after the ground shook, there was fire…  
But it wasn’t fire, it was Jehovah.  
  
And after the fire, there was a sound that came from a soft breeze...  
Which was Jehovah.  
  
13Well after that, EliJah covered his face with a sheepskin and he went back inside the cave.  
  
  
But then {Look!} a voice again asked:  
  
 ‘Why are you here, EliJah?’  
  
14And EliJah once more replied:  
  
 ‘Because of my zeal… Because I’m zealous for Jehovah the Almighty!  
  
 ‘Yet, the sons of IsraEl have abandoned Your Sacred Agreement with them… They’ve demolished Your Altars and they’ve killed Your prophets with swords, and now I’m the only one left and they’re looking [to kill] me too!’  
  
15Then The Lord said to him:  
  
 ‘Continue on with your journey; and when you reach the desert road to Damascus, [I want you to] anoint HazaEl to be the king over Syria.  
  
 16‘Also, anoint Jehu (son of NaMesSi) to be the king over IsraEl, and anoint EliSha (son of ShaPhat from AbelMaoOla) to replace you as [My] prophet.  
  
 17‘Thereafter, all those who are saved from the broadsword of HazaEl will be killed by Jehu, and all who are saved from the broadsword of Jehu will be killed by EliSha.  
  
 18‘However, there are still 7,000 men in IsraEl who haven’t bent their knees to the BaAl, and none of them have spoken reverently of him.’  
  
19So then he went and found EliSha (son of ShaPhat), who at the time was leading 12 teams of oxen that were pulling a plough... He went up to him and placed his sheepskin over him.  
  
20Then EliSha left his oxen and ran after EliJah, and he said:  
  
 ‘First let me kiss my father [goodbye]… And then I’ll follow you!’  
  
And [EliJah] told him:  
  
 ‘Go on then, and return here… For I’ve [got lots] for you to do!’  
  
21So [when he] came back to follow him, he took the teams of oxen and sacrificed them. He cooked them with the wood [of their yokes], and he gave [the meat] to his people, which they ate.  
  
Then he got up and followed EliJah, serving him.