

The Second Moses (1 Kings 19:1-19)

- Never has there been such an abrupt change in a man as in Elijah after Mt Carmel
- He who boldly faced 450 prophets of Baal now trembles at the threat of 1 woman
- He who prayed that life-giving rain be given now prays for his life to be over
- God took Elijah south away from Baal territory to where Israel was born
- It was in effect a distancing: Israel's faith from all that Baalism represented

I. What Are We to Think of Elijah's Depression?

- Why all of a sudden was Elijah overcome with despair? He was caught off guard
- He had expected the nation along with Ahab & Jezebel would turn back to God
- Victory at Carmel had the opposite effect Elijah expected: it made things worse
- If we think revival will solve our problems we may be in for a rude awakening
- While we are here on earth, evil will remain until the Lord brings it all to an end

II. Elijah Can Be Compared to A Second Moses (9-10)

- Writer of Kings portrays this episode in life of Elijah so that it reflects Moses life
- Moses experienced God's power on the mountain only to find Israel in idolatry
- God supplied Moses with food & water for 40 days & now He does this for Elijah
- Moses encountered God at Sinai and now He leads Elijah to Mt Sinai
- Elijah, like Moses, would experience God in the wind, fire and earthquake
- The cave where Elijah took refuge reminds us of Moses in the cleft of the rock
- On that same mountain God passed by both men, & both avoided looking at God
- Both men returned to their commissions to serve God renewed, both Elijah & Moses complained they had had enough & asked God to take their lives
- Both men were the objects of God's special care at the time of their death

III. God Is at Work When It Appears His Work Has Failed (10-15)

- Though Elijah knew there were other prophets he complained he was the only one
- Elijah may have felt alone, but he wasn't: he would not have to face evil alone
- Jesus, true Israel, would face evil alone, abandoned by all, completely forsaken

IV. God's Word Will Not Return to Him Void

- God answers Elijah with wind, earthquake & fire, & asks why he there, note v.10
- Elijah needed God to interpret these sign to him, they were not sufficient
- Wind, earthquake & fire were God's instruments, but He was found in stillness