

EPISODE NO. 171

1 Kings 18:1-16

The Three-Year Drought

1 Three long years passed. There was still no rain. Then Yahweh spoke His Word to Elijah, saying, “Go, show yourself to Ahab. I am about to send rain.” 2 So Elijah went to meet Ahab.

By this time, there was almost no food left in Samaria. 3 So, King Ahab summoned Obadiah. Obadiah was in charge of the king’s palace. (Obadiah was a true follower of Yahweh. 4 One time, Jezebel was killing off all of Yahweh’s prophets. So, Obadiah took 100 of them and hid them in two caves. He put 50 in one cave and 50 in another cave. And he brought them food and water.) 5 King Ahab said to Obadiah, “Let’s look at every spring and brook in the land. Maybe we can find enough grass to keep our horses and mules alive. Then we will not have to kill our animals.”

6 So, each one chose a part of the country to search. Ahab went in one direction separately; Obadiah went in a different direction.

7 While Obadiah was walking along, look, Elijah met him. Obadiah knew who Elijah was. So, he bowed face-down on the ground before Elijah. He said, “Elijah? Is it really you, my master?”

8 Elijah answered him, “Yes. Go, tell your master the king that I am here.”

9 Then Obadiah said, “If I tell Ahab that, then he will kill me! I have done nothing wrong that I should be killed! 10 As surely as the Always-Present One, your God, lives, the king has looked everywhere for you! He has sent people to every country to look for you. If the ruler of a country said you were not there, that was not enough. Ahab then forced that ruler to swear that you could not be found in his country. 11 And now, you want me to go to my master and tell him: ‘Elijah is here!’? 12 The Spirit of the Always-Present One might carry you off to some other unknown place after I leave. If I go to tell King Ahab that you are here, then he will come. If he doesn’t find you, then he will kill me! I have followed Yahweh since I was a boy. 13 Haven’t you heard what I did? When Jezebel was killing off Yahweh’s prophets, I hid 100 of them. I put 50 prophets in one cave and 50 prophets in another cave. I brought them food and water. 14 Now, you want me to go and tell the king that you are here!? He will kill me!”

15 Elijah answered, “I serve Yahweh of the armies of heaven. As surely as the Always-Present One lives, I will show myself before Ahab TODAY!”

16 So, Obadiah went to Ahab and told him where Elijah was. Then Ahab went to meet Elijah.