

Day 61 – Apr. 24

Enter Elijah. One of the most famous prophets in all of scripture gets little to no introduction, no backstory, and no title. Elijah, who represents all the Prophets when he stands with Moses and Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration, is just a humble servant. Elijah, who is foretold to come again to announce the coming of the Messiah and is an important part of every annual Seder meal to this very day is just a simple messenger of God. And perhaps that is why we like him so much.

His first act is a drive-by prophecy, where he runs up to Ahab, tells him there will be a drought for the foreseeable future, and then runs away to hide. Not all prophets enter a room with smoke machines and deep bass playing on the speakers, I guess. And perhaps that is why we like him so much.

Elijah is fed by a stream, ravens, and then a foreign widow on her last loaf of bread. He trusts God to supply his needs as well as the needs of those around him like the widow who just lost a son. He goes when God says go regardless of the danger, he hides when God says hide, and he asks for the last of this widow's bread for himself when God commands it. Elijah is bold and trusting, and perhaps that is why we like him so much.

Elijah raises the dead, foretells a famine, and challenges hundreds of prophets of the false god Baal to a contest that requires God's miraculous intervention. He is referenced by Jesus Himself no less than 3 times, and he should be a Rockstar of historical proportions, yet we find him humble, honest, and at times weak like us. Perhaps that is why we like him so much.

Could you maintain a humility like Elijah's if God were using you like He did Elijah? If you raised the dead, foretold a famine, stared down a king, and won a battle against hundreds of false priests, wouldn't you feel a bit proud? Wouldn't you ask people to use an honorific when they spoke to or of you? Could we learn a bit about humility from Elijah? I know I can. And have. And will continue to.