



Heroes & Villains Series, No. 35: Elijah, I Kings 17-19
Mike Halpin ~ August 18, 2019

Intro & Review: *Against the Tide*, by Angus Kinnear. Watchman Nee and the the God of Elijah.

Two key lessons:

1. Faithfulness to Christ sometimes requires great courage, in the face of great opposition, or at times when there's no one else to stand w/ us.
2. We're responsible to be faithful, not to accomplish our own agenda.

I. Courageous Faithfulness—

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A. Facing An Adversarial King

1Kings 17:1

What do we do when there's something unpleasant or difficult that needs to be communicated, to a friend, much less a powerful adversary? _____

B. In the Wilderness

1 Kings 17:2-6

How do we respond when God ordains or allows privation, isolation, sickness, depression, some form of poverty?

C. In the Enemies Backyard

1Kings 17:8-16

How do we respond when God requires us to be in proximity w/ people who don't like us, or who don't want us to succeed?

D. Against all Odds

1Kings 18:1-40

Are we faithful to Christ's name and cause when there's no one else around to agree with us or encourage us?

II. Faith Falters—

1 Kings 19:1–18

A. Elijah is worn out and discouraged

When fatigued we tend to make too much of ourselves and too little of God. But what you see in God's interaction w/ Elijah is grace upon grace. (Ligon Duncan on Elijah: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyZ2pMRPSws>)

B. God's Grace to Elijah

- Angel & Breakfast
- God Query– What's wrong Elijah?
- God Reveals his Power
- God Speaks in Whisper
- God commissions Elijah

Elijah's end on earth is spectacular but incomplete; he didn't finish well.

Isaiah 55:6–11

If we make too much of ourselves, like Elijah did, we fall to despair when things don't turn out as we thought, hoped, and prayed they would. If we make too little of being faithful, we fail to engage the people and events God means us to be part of, not because he needs us, but because he wants to give us the joy of working w/ our Father.

III. God's Enduring Faithfulness—

Luke 9:28–31

- Moses
- Elijah

The LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. Ps 84:11