

1 Kings 19:9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD *came* to him, and he said unto him, **What doest thou here, Elijah?**

We often think of the mountaintop experience as being filled with wonder, glory, and magnificence, but it may not always be that way. Satan tempted Jesus by taking Him up to a mountain and offering Him a way out of the cross. Lot would not go into the mountain because it was a dangerous place.

Genesis 19:19 . . . I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:

How did Elijah get to this mountain? He had just called down fire from heaven and the people confessed that the Lord was God and the drought ended. You would think he would be elated by the results of his ministry. But he ran for his life to Beersheba. Sometimes after our greatest victory we may experience our greatest vulnerability. God sees to it that we don't get too independent. Beersheba means the well of the oath. When we find ourselves in a predicament we need to immerse ourselves in the word of God. Elijah left his servant. There are some experiences in our lives that can only be had with the Lord alone. Juniper tree = the shadow of the Lord Jesus Christ. Elijah wanted to die, he rested under the tree (rest in Christ). The cake baked on the coals = the word of God specifically for me. The cruse of water = the Holy Spirit. (1 Kings 19:3-6)

1 Kings 19:7 Arise *and eat*; because the journey *is* too great for thee.

Elijah went in the strength of that meat 40 days and 40 nights to Horeb the mount of God. There are times in our lives when we wonder what am I doing here? How did I get to this place? We are involved with circumstances beyond our control. God chose the path for you. God wanted Elijah to empty out his heart and be honest with Him. The Lord passed by and there was wind, an earthquake, and fire; but the Lord was not in those. Sometimes we cry out to the Lord and we are honest with Him and we expect deliverance.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

God loves you, but it is not over yet. This is not the end of your trial, but He enables you to bear it. A still small voice got Elijah's attention. The Lord wants to pull us so close to Himself that He doesn't have to shout. God asked Elijah the same question (v.13) – He wants us to learn what He wants us to know – Elijah gave the same answer (v.14). We have reached this place too: jealous for the LORD God – obsessed with the truth. Men today will not take a stand for Jesus. Elijah wanted to know what to do. Sometimes when we come out of a difficulty we just need a direction, God gave Elijah a direction (v.15-16). We walk by faith. God will give us sufficient direction for the day. God sent Elisha to go anoint two ungodly men – this signifies that things in this world are not going to get better, it's going to get worse. We might think we are the only one left but we don't know other's hearts the way God does. Pray for others, but we need to take responsibility for ourselves. Listen to the still, small voice. God had a way of escape for Elijah – translation! We must be ready.