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BRETHREN IN CHRIST

SUMMER 2023 SERMON SERIES
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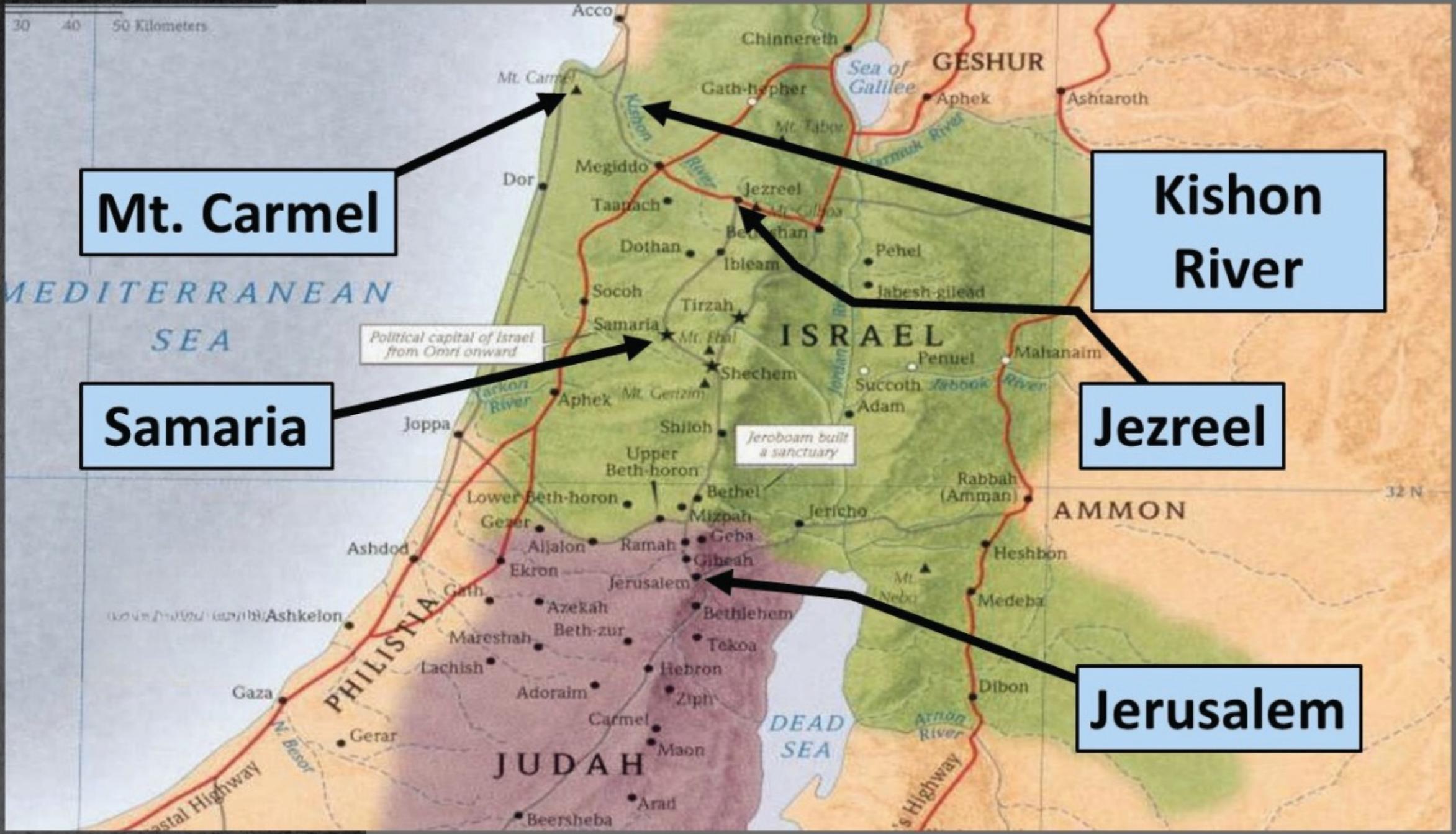
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Elijah: Zealous for God

Part 6 of 12



Mt. Carmel

Kishon River

Samaria

Jezreel

Jerusalem

Political capital of Israel from Omri onward

Jeroboam built a sanctuary

1 KINGS
16:29-33



Baal & Asherah

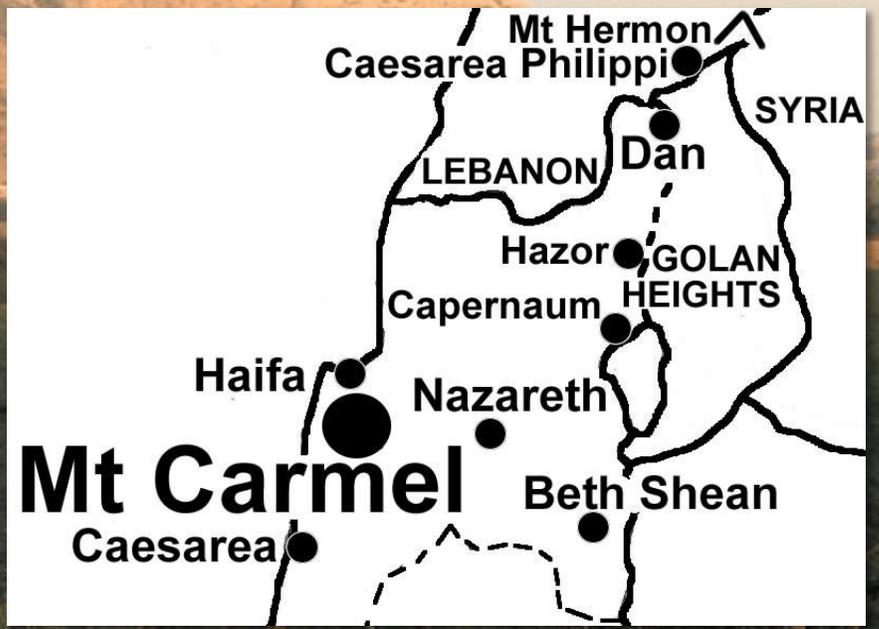


1 KINGS
17:1-9



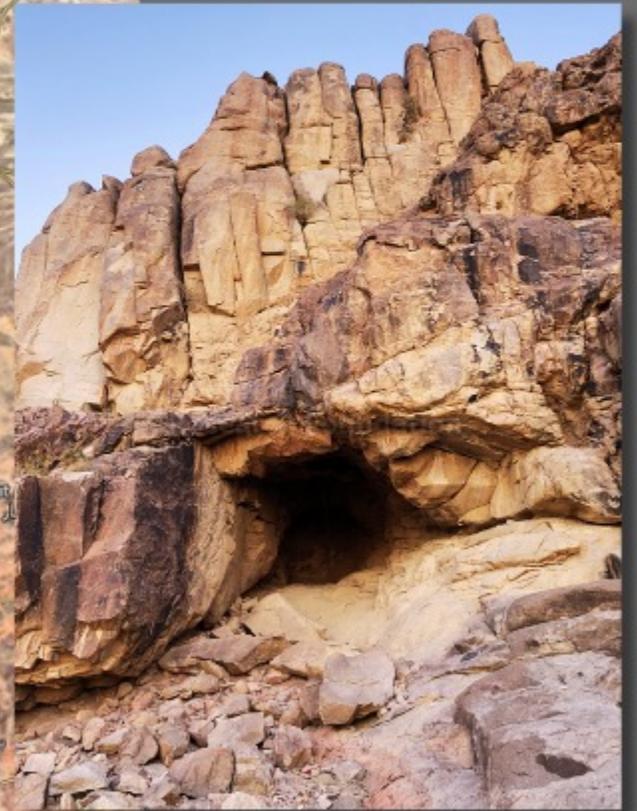
1 KINGS
18:1-45







1 KINGS
19:1-18







Revelation 2:19-23 NIV – Jesus to the Church at Thyatira

¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

²⁰ Nevertheless, I have this against you: **You tolerate that woman Jezebel**, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching **she misleads my servants into sexual immorality** and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. ²² So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. ²³ I will strike her children [followers] dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

Luke 9:51-55 NIV - Jesus: Greater than Elijah

⁵¹ As the time approached for him to be **taken up to heaven**, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a **Samaritan village** to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there **did not welcome him**, because he was heading for Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call **fire down from heaven** to destroy them?” ⁵⁵ **But Jesus turned and rebuked them.**

Paul, Romans 12:11-12 NIV

¹¹ Never be lacking in **zeal**, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

The Voice (VOICE)

¹¹ Do not slack in your faithfulness and hard work. **Let your spirit be on fire**, bubbling up and boiling over, as you serve the Lord. ¹² *Do not forget to rejoice*, for hope is always just around the corner. Hold up through the hard times that are coming, and devote yourselves to prayer.

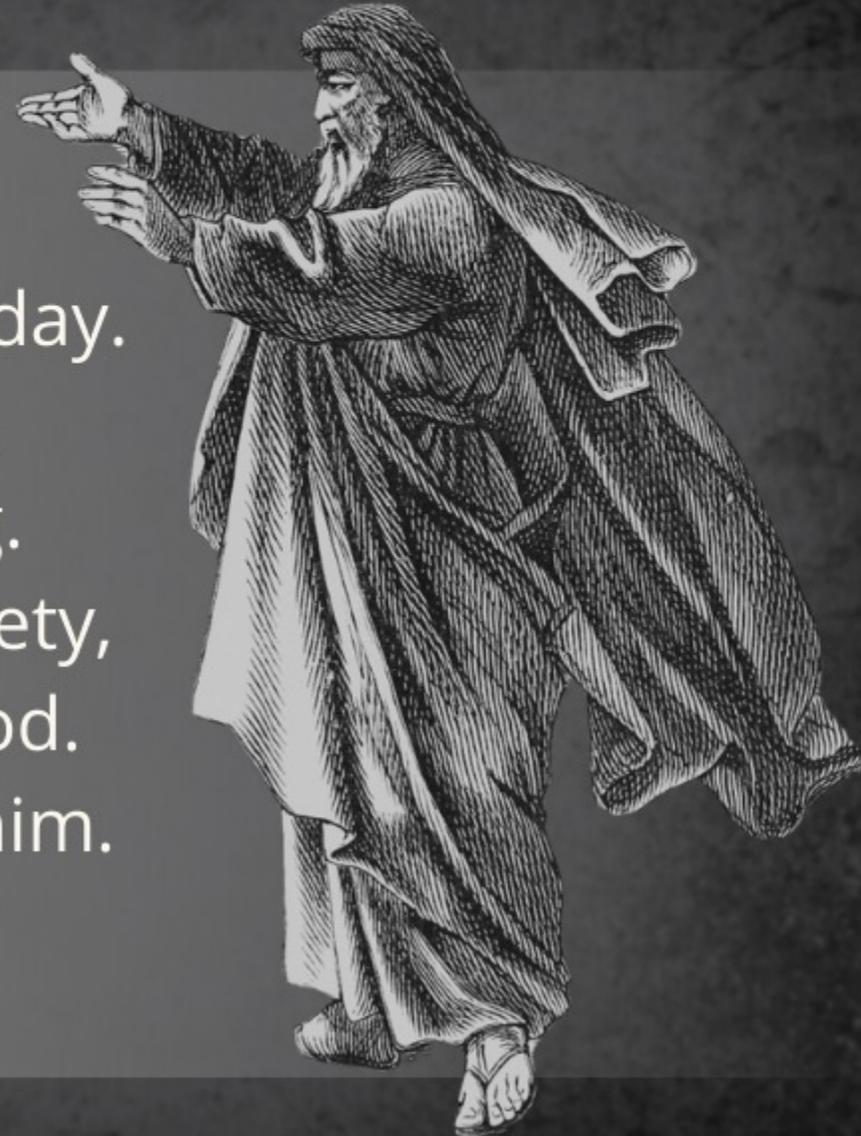
James 5:16-18 NIV

The prayer of **a righteous person** is *powerful and effective*. **Elijah was a human being, even as we are.** He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

LESSONS FROM ELIJAH

What can we learn from Elijah's story?

- The Ahabs and Jezebels are still with us today.
- God has not called us to safety or success, but to be obedient to his Word and calling.
- Even the faithful can experience fear, anxiety, and depression; we must keep trusting God.
- God honors and exalts those who glorify him.
- Elijah was both a saint *and* a sinner.



Zealous for God

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Questions for reflection and response:

Zealous for God

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Questions for reflection and response:

1. Can you see yourself in Elijah? If so, how?

Zealous for God

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Questions for reflection and response:

1. Can you see yourself in Elijah? If so, how?
2. Are you "zealous" for God in a culture full of idols (e.g., sexuality, political power, wealth, technology, etc.)?

Zealous for God

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Questions for reflection and response:

1. Can you see yourself in Elijah? If so, how?
2. Are you "zealous" for God in a culture full of idols (e.g., sexuality, political power, wealth, technology, etc.)?
3. How is God inviting you to trust him more with your life, and with the future of the church and the world?

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