"ELIJAH: The Man of God"

1/12/11

Introduction:

II Kings 1:9-13

** Characteristics of a "man of God":*



I. **He is a MAN** (Ja. 5:17a)

II. **He is a Man of PRAYER** (Ja. 5:17-18)





III. **He is a Man of DEPENDENCE** (I Ki. 17:2-7)

IV. **He is a Man of OBEDIENCE** (I Ki. 17:5; 18:1)



V. **He is a Man of FAITH** (I Ki. 17:17-23)

VI. **He is a Man of TRUTH** (I Ki. 17:24; 18:15; 18:17-18; 21:17-29)



VII. **He is a Man of CONVICTION** (I Ki. 18:21-22)

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** Characteristics of a "<u>man of God</u>":*

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II. **He is a Man of** _____ (Ja. 5:17-18)

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VII. **He is a Man of** _____ (I Ki. 18:21-22)

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INTRODUCTION:

His Name: "Elijah" – My God is Jah (Jehovah)
His name appears more times in the N.T. than any other O.T. Prophet (27 times)
He lived during Israel's Darkest Days. (Baal worship Prevalent).

SEE: II Kings 1:9-13

***Be a "man of God"!** (cp. I Tim. 6:11; II Tim. 3:17)

--Characteristics of a "man of God":

I. He is a MAN (Ja. 5:17a)

"A man of like passions" = a man with the same affections, feelings (emotions), sufferings (struggles) -

I.E. He possessed the same nature. He was only a human being like we are.

"The word (homoiopathes) indicates that the power of Elijah's prayer (and ministry) did not lie in his supernatural greatness" (Mussner).

One of the most blasphemous aspects of the RCC is the exaltation of men (EX: popes, bishops, cardinals, "saints")

Beware of deifying any preacher or teacher (cp. I Cor. 4:1ff).

However, respect them for their works (office) sake:

I Thes. 5:12-13 - "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves."

Cp. Heb. 13:7, 17, 24 -
"We have this treasure in earthen vessels"

II. He is a Man of PRAYER (Ja. 5:17-18)

V. 16 lit. - "The effective (energized) prayer (request) of a righteous one is strong to do much" (it is very powerful!)

"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer" (I Pet. 3:12)

Elijah was: 1)a "Man" - we tend to view Bible heroes as superhuman.
2)"of like passions" = same nature (feelings, experiences) as others.
Elijah had the same struggles and weaknesses as other men have.

"He prayed fervently" = lit. He prayed with prayer. The Hebrew would repeat the word to stress intensity.

Elijah prayed that it wouldn't rain as a form of judgment on the idolatrous kingdom of Ahab and Jezebel (I KI. 17ff).

Too many people don't pray in their prayers. They just lazily say religious words, and their hearts are not in their prayers (Wiersbe, p. 172).

III. He is a Man of DEPENDENCE

A. God used the ravens to provide for His man
(I Ki. 17:2-7)

B. God used a poor widow to provide for His man
(I Ki. 17:8-16)

IV. He is a Man of <u>OBEDIENCE</u> (I Ki. 17:5; 18:1, etc.)

V. He is a Man of <u>FAITH</u> (I Ki. 17:17-23)

VI. He is a Man of <u>TRUTH</u>

A. Elijah's life <u>backed up the truth</u> (I Ki. 17:24)

B. Elijah <u>kept his word</u> (I Ki. 18:15)

C. Elijah <u>fearlessly preached the truth</u> (I Ki. 18:17-18; 21:17-29)

VII. He is a Man of <u>CONVICTION</u>

A. Elijah had convictions though seemingly he battled <u>alone</u> (18:22)

B. Elijah had conviction to call upon Israel to serve <u>one Master</u> (18:21)

CONCLUSION:

--Elijah's <u>translation</u> to Heaven (II Ki. 2:1-<u>11</u>)

--Elijah's <u>appeared</u> at the transfiguration (Mt. 17:1-13)

--Elijah is coming <u>again</u> (Mal. 4:5-6; cp. Lk. 1:11-17; Mt. 11:14; Rev. 11)