Elijah/Elisha Daring Dudes #5 Pastor Rick Baker

1 Kings 19:1-18 June 27 2021

“**What are you doing here**, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?” (GOD)

*Your name here*

***Let us not become weary in doing good****, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

*(Gal. 6:9)*

Instead of a national revival, Elijah had a contract put out on his life.

*Signs you’ve become weary in doing good (maybe beyond weary to wearisome?) ...*

1. *You have* ***become afraid*** *that God has met his match, won’t help, or has moved on. (19:1-3)*

*The God who rescued him from Ahab, famine, hundreds of Baal prophets and followers and sent rain in response to his prayer is the same God Jezebel must answer to.*

1. *You begin to* ***utter weird****, radical, extreme, ultimatum* ***prayers****. (19:4-7)*

*“I’m a failure –take my life.”—By implication, God is the failure!*

1. *You make a pilgrimage to a place of worship because you have* ***a beef with God****. (19:8-9)*

*God graciously resources an unauthorized pilgrimage.*

1. *You make* ***wild******exaggerations*** *on how bad things are and how uniquely zealous you are. (19:10,14)*

*Zealous over his zeal for God (judgement) or over God? —what he says and how he is acting are at odds.*

*“Boanerges zeal”*

***Because****...*

*You are guilty of* ***type-casting God****! (Ex. 16:19; Ps. 18:8; Heb. 12:18-21)*

* *Used to a way of experiencing, encountering God or expecting Him to act*

*Addicted to adrenalin and missing the “gentle whisper.” “The prophet wanted to reform everything by means of the tempest.” (Keil-Delitzsch)*

* *Idolizing a way, a setting, a method, a straight-line outcome.*

*Call the elements to napalm the idolaters. Our zeal for judgement and justice may be out of harmony with God’s love, grace and longsuffering.*

***Critical takeaways...***

* *God is free and always at work (Jn. 5:17)*

*While Elijah is griping and losing sleep, the LORD is sovereignly rearranging the geo-political landscape.*

* *Fruit will happen, but in His way and His time!*

*God is not a programable device*

* ***God’s mission*** *is never endangered or hostage to human agency*
  + *Arameans are getting new leadership*
  + *The house of Ahab is on the way out*
  + *Elijah’s successor is already in sight*
  + *Judgement and justice are already pre-programmed*
  + *7000 people aren’t kissing idols—more than just you!!*

*Be careful that, in your so-called zeal for God, you don’t begin to actually miss out seeing and encountering the very reality of God you so long to experience. He’s not yours to program and control. (I think there is a fair bit of that around and hopefully being corrected) God is not hostage to things being exactly the way we think they should be in order for Him to work.* ***Elijah needed to get Elijah out of the way—fear, discouragement, relational strain with God, wanting to quit—all signs that Elijah’s zeal had turned inward rather than upward.*** *God had to let him wander over 600 km to get his eyes back on the real prize—not judgement, not revival, not even zeal for ministry; Almighty God as his Lord, no matter what!*

*“WHY ARE YOU HERE, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?”*

*“WHAT* ***idol*** *is IN THE WAY OF HEARING GOD whisper RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE AND IN THE VERY CIRCUMSTANCE HE HAS ALLOWED YOU TO BE?” If you can’t hear the whisper, you won’t be able to hear the next set of instructions. If you have already decided how things should be, you aren’t ready to hear how things ARE TO BE.*