

The Gentle Whisper of God

1 Kings 19:8-18; Exodus 33:11-23

I. **THE LORD'S PRESENCE** (v. 11)

A. **The Mountain of God** (v. 8; Ps 42:2; Gen 22:14)—**Where God met with Moses and gave the Law**

B. **The Holiness of God** (vs. 11-12; Ex 19:16-18 & 24:17; Deut 4:11-12)—**Wind, Earthquake and Fire**

1. **Raw Power**—violent, terrifying force of nature

2. **Righteous Judgment that attends the Law**—Signified God's presence on Mt. Sinai when He gave the Law

C. **The Shelter of God** (v. 9, 13; Ex 33:21-22; Ps 51:9)

1. **God hid Moses in the cleft of the rock.**

2. **Elijah was sheltered in the cave.**

3. **Jesus is our Shelter.** (We are covered by His righteousness.)

II. **THE LORD SPEAKS** (Num 12:6-8)

A. **The Word of the LORD** came to him. (v. 9)—**prophetic role**

B. **The Voice of God** (vs. 12b-13;)—**personal relationship**

1. **Gentle** (Deut 5:22)—not terrifying like God giving the Law

a. **God speaks to Elijah as a friend.** (Jn 15:15)

b. **Elijah's experience points to the coming of Christ.** (Is 42:2-3; Heb 1:1-2)

2. **Relational** (Ex 33:17)—invites conversation

a. **God addresses Elijah by name.** (Jn 10:3)

b. **God invites him to talk back.** (Ps 62:8) condescends to *listen*

3. **Personal** (Ex 3:6; 33:11, 20)—face to face

- God comes to us face to face us in the person of Jesus.

C. **The Mediation of Christ** (Ex 20:18-19)

1. **Moses is a type of Christ.** (Ex 19:12, 21 and 20:18-19)

a. **When He gave the Law, God spoke in the thunder.**

b. **Moses protected the people by keeping them away from God.** (intercessor, go-between)

2. Jesus is ***greater*** than Moses. (Jn 1:17-18; Jude :24)
 - a. Through Jesus, God speaks with a ***gracious*** voice.
 - b. Jesus ***brings us into*** God's Holy presence without fear.

III. **ELIJAH'S COMPLAINT** (vs. 10, 14)

A. ***I've done all I can do.***

1. **Fleshly Zeal**—human motivation and effort
2. **Despair**—our strength, zeal, motivation is not enough.

B. ***I'm not having any success.*** (The people aren't cooperating.)

C. ***I'm all alone.*** (I'm the only one serving God.)

D. ***They're trying to kill me.*** (What would God do without me?)

IV. **THE LORD'S RESPONSE** (vs. 15-18)

A. ***"Go back"*** God reaffirms *Elijah's call* to ministry.

B. ***"Anoint"***—God graciously responds to *Elijah's cry* for help.

1. You will have ***help.*** (Ex 33:12; Num 11:14-17)

- a. Hazael king over Aram
- b. Jehu king over Israel
- c. Elisha to succeed as prophet

2. God's plan ***includes you but is bigger than you.*** (Is 42:4)

C. ***"I reserve"***—gentle rebuke and huge encouragement

1. You are ***not alone.***

2. God will always ***preserve a remnant.*** (Rom 11:5)

- a. **Numerous** (Rev 7:9)—not just a *few* of them; there are *many*
- b. **Complete** (Jn 10:27-30; 2 Tim 2:19; Rev 17:8)

Listen to ***Know that I Am God (Harvest)*** on YouTube at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCR_mUOvkw8&feature=share