Fed by Ravens

1 Kings 16:29-17:6

I. The Days of Elijah

- A. A <u>Divided</u> Kingdom
- B. A Wealthy Nation
- C. A History of <u>Unfaithfulness</u>
 - 1. Solomon's sin caused division of the kingdom.
 - **2. Jeroboam son of Nebat <u>caused Israel to sin</u>.** (1 Kg 12:28) reinvented religion to secure political power, created <u>alternative</u> system to <u>compete</u> with the true worship of God
 - 3. Idolatry became <u>entrenched</u> in the culture.
- D. The Most Notorious King Ever (Ahab)
 - 1. He reinforced Jeroboam's sin.
 - 2. He married Jezebel, a Phoenician princess.
 - 3. He allowed State-sponsored foreign religion.
- E. A Resurgence of Canaanite Religion
 - **1. The <u>Prohibition</u>** (Ex 34:11-16; Deut 7)—treaties, intermarriage, or worship Canaanite gods
 - 2. The <u>Idols</u>—Canaanite fertility cult
 - **a. Baal**—chief male god, male virility, bring rain, give fertility
 - b. Asherah—goddess of war and sex, motherhood, fertility
 - **3. The <u>City</u> of Jericho** (1 Kng 16:34; Josh 6:26)—defiance of God, sacrifice of children

- **II.** The Prophet (Deut 18:14-22)
 - **A. The Man of God** (17:1; James 5:17)
 - 1. Elijah was a human being.
 - 2. The name Elijah means "The LORD is God."
 - 3. A prophet was <u>devoted</u> to the service of God.
 - **B.** The <u>Word</u> of the LORD (17:2; 2 Pet 1:20-21)
 - 1. God is actively involved in human history.
 - 2. God <u>pursues</u> His wayward people.
 - 3. The Word of God is absolutely reliable.
- **III.** The Drought (17:1)
 - **A. Drought is a <u>reality check</u>**. (Deut 8:2-3)
 - 1. Withholding rain was a direct challenge to Baal.
 - 2. God sends drought to <u>test</u> us, to <u>teach</u> us, and to <u>remind</u> us who it is that gives us what we need.
 - B. When God thwarts our desires, idols cannot help us.
 - C. Famine should <u>turn us to the True God</u>.
- **IV.** God's Miraculous Provision (17:2-6; Gen 22:14; Phil 4:19)
 - A. God has a history of faithfulness.
 - B. God can <u>simultaneously</u> punish the wicked and sustain the righteous. (Ps 23:5; 2 Peter 2:9)
 - A. God is completely <u>reliable</u> in His faithfulness but endlessly <u>creative</u> in His methods!

Days of Elijah

Robin Mark, 1994

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the word of the Lord
And these are the days of Your servant Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days of great trial
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice in the desert crying
'Prepare ye the way of the Lord!'

Chorus:

Behold He comes riding on the clouds Shining like the sun at the trumpet call Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee And out of Zion's hill salvation comes

These are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days of Your servant David
Rebuilding a temple of praise
These are the days of the harvest
The fields are as white in Your world
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard
Declaring the word of the Lord

Chorus

There's no God like Jehovah
There's no God like Jehovah...

Chorus (repeated x 4)

Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee And out of Zion's hill salvation comes

Watch and listen Robin Mark's official lyric video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ca9LnzJnpjQ&feature=share