AN END TIME PRAYING CHURCH

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1 Kings 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

THREE KEYS THAT ELIJAH KNEW THAT MADE HIM A CONFIDENT AND FAITHFUL PRAYER WARRIOR:

KEY 1 HE KNEW THE LIVING GOD

"As the Lord, the God of Israel lives," show us Elijah was convinced and confident in God's person. " "As living is Yahweh" Yahweh means "I Am that I Am." This name itself stresses God's aliveness, His dynamic and active self-existence. It is the name by which God revealed Himself to Israel as their redeemer as seen in Exodus 3. It reminds us that He is the God of special revelation and redemptive love. God was not just an idea to Elijah, but a living, and personal God. He did not just know about God, but he knew God in such a personal way that it transformed his life. Dan. 11:32 "but the people who know God will display strength and take action".

Knowing and believing this was the secret of Elijah's boldness, his presence before King, Ahab, Elijah was convinced God was not only alive, but immanent--personally and actively involved in the affairs of both Israel and the nations. Elijah acted on God's promises. He prayed and proclaimed his message to King Ahab. Elijah was declaring it was not just any man's ideas about God that counted, but the revelation of the God of the Bible--he alone is the true God. Likewise, our responsibility is to know God intimately, and then to proclaim the Christ of the Bible as the true Savior and God.

KEY 2 BEFORE WHOM I STAND

Elijah: He was aware of God's presence and committed as God's representative. "Before whom I stand" showed Elijah's awareness that God was with him, God had sent him. He was under God's watchful eye, protection, supply, enablement, and orders. Elijah's faith was anchored in his mind and in his consciousness, and that motivated and controlled his life.

(1) Elijah knew that there was no place where he would be absent from the caring and

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watchful eye of God

(2) Elijah knew he was a personal representative of the living God

(3) Elijah :With God's presence and orders, also came God's power, protection and provision to do what he was called to do.

Elijah was living in the light of God's omnipresence and was practicing the presence of God.

Our need is to flee to the Lord, to draw near to Him and know His presence, rather than to flee to our strategies for handling life. Elijah understood as a believer, he was not on earth merely to have a good time or seek his own satisfaction and comfort. He knew he was there to represent the Lord boldly and courageously in the battle with satanic forces for the souls of men and for the glory of God. Elijah lived in a time when many believers were hiding in caves, afraid to speak.

KEY 3 BELIEVING THE AUTHORITY OF THE WORD

Elijah's prayer for no rain was not just something out of his own imagination or because he was angry at Jezebel. He was acting on the truth of the Word. He was standing firmly on the promises. Elijah was relying on the principles of Deut. 11; the prophets of Baal claimed Baal-Melqart was the god of thunder, rain, and good crops. Elijah's declaration in 1 Kings 17:1 strongly challenged the reality of their god and their faith. It showed Baal was false and impotent and that the prophets of Baal were liars. It also showed truth and salvation could only be found in the prophets of Yahweh.

So let us pray with confidence and know God will respond to praying people. Who are like Elijah? The Lord promised that He will once again send the Spirit of Elijah to prepare the way of his coming. Let's be Hungry for Him.

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Love and Blessings Lu & Cynthia

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