

**Faith Christian Fellowship**  
**Sunday, November 13, 2016**  
**The Days of Elijah**  
**6: God is on Your Side**

**TEXT:** James 5:17-18 / Malachi 4:5-6 / 1 Kings 17:15-24

This is a year of desiring Fresh fire. The Lord spoke to me through a song: **“These are the days of Elijah.” Why did the Lord say “Elijah” to us right now?** We are looking at the implications of Elijah for us in the New Covenant, and especially in this hour. Last time we saw the times we live in, our own humanity, the need for right NT motives, and our desperate need for Elijah-like results. We went *Cherith* to hide by the creek, then the brook dried up, and we found the importance of getting our priorities right in the evil day. For two weeks we looked at the Church being Elijah in the day we live in politically.

Today, back to Zarepheth to see a miracle for a friend.

- 1) Trouble cometh: Be prepared, not surprised.
  - a) Mark 4:15 – Satan comes to steal
  - b) Note that most trouble comes first from our own house. Think it not strange! Matthew 10:36 NLT Your enemies will be right in your own household!
    - b.i) 2 Sam 6:20-23. David and Michal
    - b.ii) Mk 3:21 – family thought He was nuts.
  - c) John 16:33 NKJV These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."
    - c.i) These things:
      - (c.i.1) I'm leaving you here, and you won't like it for a minute. It will be good for you
      - (c.i.2) I'm sending you the Holy Spirit to do miracles and demonstrate my resurrection
      - (c.i.3) He will teach you things that you can't understand right now
      - (c.i.4) I am giving you authority to petition the Father in My Name
    - c.ii) There will be trouble, but **CHEER UP!**

- (c.ii.1) *tharséō*; formbe of good cheer, have courage, spoken by way of encouragement. From *tharsos*-boldness, daring, courage
- (c.ii.2) He has overcome the world: cheer up because of what He has done, not what you can do.

- 2) Avoid the blame game.
  - a) When trouble comes, the first stop for most folks is finding someone to blame. Remember Adam and Eve? They blamed the woman, the devil, and God.
  - b) Don't blame the messenger:
    - b.i) No man is always right: get in the Word for yourself! Acts 17:11
    - b.ii) You may have not heard accurately: Matthew 27:46-47
    - b.iii) Your traditions cause you to hear wrong or hear only in part. – Mk 7:13
    - b.iv) You may not be at a place of maturity where you can hear all the truth. John 16:12 / 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 / Hebrews 5:11-14
  - c) Most blame God:
    - c.i) John 10:10. Get it straight: Good God / Bad Devil
    - c.ii) Acts 10:38 – doing good and healing
    - c.iii) Matthew 7:7-11. No rocks or snakes!!!!
    - c.iv) If I can blame God, then I can solicit sympathy and feel sorry for myself.
    - c.v) Isa 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;
- 3) The real killer: We blame ourselves:
  - a) The natural impulse: “Who sinned?” John 9:2-4
  - b) “There must be sin in my life”
    - b.i) If there is, then deal with it! 1 Jn 1:9
      - (b.i.1) Conviction is specific.
      - (b.i.2) Condemnation is vague
    - b.ii) Is 54:17 Stop those condemning tongues!
    - b.iii) Romans 5:21 Grace reigns through righteousness, not condemnation
    - b.iv) Note Elijah didn't get mad at the woman, or list all her many faith failings. He said “she opened her home to me.”

c) "I don't have enough faith"

c.i) Get in the Word – Rom 10:17 / Mark 6:6

c.ii) Use what you have – Lk 17:5-6

c.iii) Ask the Lord to help you – Mk 9:24

**"The meaning of life. The wasted years of life. The poor choices of life. God answers the mess of life with one word: 'grace.'"**

Max Lucado