

Faith Christian Fellowship  
Sunday, November 6, 2016  
The Days of Elijah  
5: Who Decides?

TEXT: James 5:17-18 / Malachi 4:5-6 / Matthew 11:10-14

This is a year of desiring Fresh fire. The Lord said “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 in this hour. We saw the times we live in, our own humanity, the need for right motives, and our desperate need for Elijah-like results. We went to *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. Last time we saw that we are the Elijah in our land, and we looked at the big 3 issues for the Church: Life, Speech, Israel.

If there was ever a time for the Church to stand up and declare the Word of the Lord and His imminent return, this is it! a) Lord Acton, 1887  
"Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men."

- 1) **For all issues, the question is “Who Decides?”**
  - a) You can't trust people with power:
    - a.i) Two visions of mankind determine our basic political outlook
      - (a.i.1) Progressives: Man is basically good, and science overseen by really smart people can run the world intelligently.
      - (a.i.2) Conservative: Man is horribly flawed and must have real accountability
      - (a.i.3) The Christian reality is that man is a fallen creature: Eph 2:1-3 / John 8:44
    - b) Much of our public policy is based on this difference in world view: Romans 1:20-25 / John 2:24-25. We need to be careful how much power we give to any man, for we know what is in man.
    - c) No matter the philosophy, the nature of man will screw it up. The question is, who decides how society is governed and how resources are used
    - d) **WHO DECIDES?** No individual or associated group of individuals can justly rule others. Three safeguards:
      - d.i) **The Rule of Law:** Equal justice under the law. Law is necessary where not all men are Christians. 1 Tim 1:8-10

- d.ii) **The Separation of Powers:** 3 distinct and mutually dependent branches of government:
- d.iii) **Sovereignty of the States:** Our protection against a centralized tyranny. **Amendment 10 - Powers of the States and People.** *The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.*

- 2) For the election, and every day:
  - a) Pray. 1 Tim 2:1-5. The quality of the leader does not matter, we are to pray. The point is that we can live a **quiet and peaceable** life so we can proclaim the one Mediator.
    - a.i) Psalm 75:6-7. God is in charge of raising up.
    - a.ii) We want a particular kind of leader: Proverbs 16:9-15  
MSG / Proverbs 20:28 / 29:4, 14 / 28:16
    - a.iii) We want someone who will favor our righteous ideals and be favorable to the Gospel and to Israel.
    - a.iv) We have the capacity to pray for the kind of leader we want, and the Lord can look on hearts, and give us. **Ez 22:30**
  - 3) No matter who gets elected
    - a) Proverbs 29:25-26 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe. (26) Many seek the ruler's favor, **But justice for man comes from the LORD.**
    - b) Proverbs 24:21 My son, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those given to change;
    - c) Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *Like* the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.
    - d) Titus 3:1-2 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, (2) to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.
    - e) **We will preach and teach and prophesy with the love of God as our attitude.** Acts 4:16-31

**These are the days of Elijah,  
but he ain't here.**

**You are.**