

# I Kings 19:8

by Chuck Smith

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*Elijah's story teaches us that even in our darkest moments, God is with us and wants to use us for His purposes.*

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 19:8, Psalm 34:4, Psalm 42:5, Isaiah 41:10, Matthew 28:20, Romans 8:31, 2 Timothy 1:7, Hebrews 13:5, 1 Peter 5:7, 1 John 4:18

**Topics:** "Overcoming Fear", "God's Presence in Trials"

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## Description

Chuck Smith explores the profound question 'What doest thou here?' as God asks Elijah, who, after a great victory, finds himself in a desolate place of despair, depression, and fear. He emphasizes that even in our lowest moments, we must remember that God is with us and has a purpose for our lives, urging us not to let fear drive us away from our calling. Smith highlights that our greatest trials often follow our greatest victories, and we should not count ourselves out when God wants to count us in. Ultimately, God calls Elijah back to action, reminding us that we are not alone in our struggles.

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## Transcript

"WHAT DOEST THOU HERE"

Intro: Elijah had just experienced one of the greatest victories of his career. Fire from heaven.

I. WHAT DOEST THOU HERE.

A. He was in the wilderness of Mt. Horeb.

1. About as desolate and uninhabited as you can find.

B. Sometimes we find ourselves in weird places.

1. Places where we as servants of God don't belong.

2. The place of despair.

a. We have given up and run.

b. Our greatest trials often follow our greatest

victories.

c. Our hope should always be bright .

1. We may lose a battle but.

2. Jesus won the war.

3. The place of depression.

a. It's no use, I can't fight the world.

b. Our note from Cheryl. "It's no use."

c. David said, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul?"

d. God is still on the throne.

4. The place of fear.

a. Elijah feared for his life.

b. Fear is a tool of Satan.

1. The fear of failure has held back many

from ventures of success.

2. The fear of man bringeth a snare.

3. It will cause you to run back in defeat

when you should be running forward to

victory.

c. God said "fear not" then He gave the greatest

reason --"for I am with thee."

1. "Ye, though I walk through the valley

of the shadow..."

2. Rom. 8, "If God be for me...?" Who

shall separate us from the love of

God?" ... Tribulation, distress,

perverse.

C. What doest thou here? You have no business here.

1. You've counted yourself out when God wants to count you in.

## II. WHAT DOEST THOU HERE?

A. He was hiding in the cave.

1. He had fled from Israel through Judah to its southern most border Beersheba. Then south to Horeb.

2. He was getting as far from the scene of action as possible.

B. He was doing nothing.

1. His fear had driven him from the work of God.

a. One week calling down fire to consume the sacrifice and turning the people to Jehovah.

b. The next week hiding in a cave surrounded by sage brush and cactus.

2. He wasn't really hiding, God found him, in fact was with him all the way.

a. He was so distressed and fearful it took him a little time to find God.

1. There was the wind, earthquake, fire.

2. God spoke in the still small voice.

## III. WHAT DOEST THOU HERE?

A. Elilah started his little speech again offering excuses.

B. God ignored his speech and sent him back to work.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/chuck-smith/i-kings-198/>

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