

A Mighty Man Falls

by Theodore Epp

The sermon explores Elijah's journey from exhaustion and despair to the reaffirmation of hope in God's promises.

Scripture: 1 Kings 19:1

Topics: "God's Faithfulness", "Hope in Despair"

Description

Theodore Epp discusses the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 19:1-8, emphasizing the prophet's physical and emotional exhaustion after his monumental victories against the prophets of Baal. Despite his remarkable strength, Elijah succumbs to despair when threatened by Jezebel, leading him to flee into the wilderness and wish for death. Epp highlights that when hope is lost, life can feel unbearable, yet he reassures that God has not abandoned us, and the Church holds onto the hope of Christ's return amidst turmoil. The sermon reminds us that even in our darkest moments, we must remember that hope is essential for life.

Transcript

1 Kings 19:1-8

Elijah traveled on foot about 95 miles to the southern border of Judah. Then he went another day's journey into the wilderness.

By that time he was completely exhausted. He had remarkable physical strength and endurance, but he had extended himself to the breaking point.

He had first prepared for the "showdown" with the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel. Then it was necessary to kill the prophets of Baal. Such invasion of Satan's territory is not done easily.

Then Elijah prayed for rain with great earnestness, and finally he ran about 16 miles to Jezreel to see what results would follow the great triumph at Mount Carmel. All of this took place in one day.

Satan knows that a tired body is an added opportunity for him, and he took advantage of it in this case. When Jezebel threatened Elijah, he seemed to lose control and continued running until he sat under the juniper tree in the wilderness.

Then he requested that he might die. Elijah had lost hope of seeing the people of Israel return to the Lord. Thus life no longer was attractive to him.

When hope is gone, life is not worth living. Perhaps it seemed to Elijah that the Lord had given up also, but this was not the case. The Lord did not answer the prayer of His discouraged servant when he asked to die.

The present world has no answer to the turmoil and strife going on in its midst, but the Church is not without hope. Our hope lies in the coming of our Lord. This we must never forget.

"Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life" (Prov. 13:12).

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/theodore-epp/a-mighty-man-falls/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net