

How God Speaks To Men



Text: 1 Kings 19:9-18.

And he came thither unto a cave and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

TRAVELLER ON TRAIL OF ELIJAH SHARES FUGITIVE'S EXPERIENCES

Mysterious Mid-Sinai, Scene of Epochal Events in Life of Israel's Leader. Tale of a Prophet Persecuted by a Woman.

The International Sunday School Lesson for October 9. "Elijah Hears God's Voice"—1 Kings 19.

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS
Elijah is a special friend of mine. From him I got my surname, for Ellis, Ellison, Elliott, Allison, and a whole group of kindred names, derive from the New Testament "Elias," which is Greek for Elijah. More important, I have trailed the troubled prophet from his birthplace in Gilead, east of the Jordan, to the scene of his victory on Mt. Carmel, and down the long, hard road into the desert of Sinai, and up the red, rocky crags of Mt. Horeb, where Jehovah spoke to Elijah as He had earlier spoken to Moses on the same spot.

Nearest of all I seemed to come to Elijah when I, too, slept under a juniper bush on the Sinai desert below Beersheba. Ward's knowledge of Bible lands we cannot appreciate the extent of Elijah's flight from northern Samaria: "He arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba. And a day further on in the desert, he was a spent man, ready to give up.

Under a Desert Juniper Bush
At Beersheba, the only American missionary, made me desist from my journey last year in Mid-Sinai in quest of Kadesh-barnea, because of the unique danger from the Azama Arabs. When I persisted, he admonished, "At least, spend every night in the Arab tents, as a guest; their, their law of hospitality may save you." But our first day's journey, over the new military road through the desert built by the Turks for their attack upon the Suez Canal, ended with no refuge in sight except a cluster of juniper bushes; and there we spent the night, with no other shelter than Elijah knew. That night, with its midnight musings under the glorious stars, upon the way of the prophets, and the influence of the desert upon Hebrew literature and religion and life, is an outstanding one in all my travels. How complete was the loneliness of Elijah, only one who knew the desert, only one who understood. But in these silent spaces of immensity, God speaks to the soul of man.

There is healing and health in the desert. Dr. John F. Goucher, of Baltimore, retired, a broken man, from the presidency of the college which bears his name. Then he took a camel journey over the route of the

of the ministerial calling is that preachers spend their "blue Monday" attending ministers' meetings, instead of going fishing or tramping in the country or visiting baseball games or the golf links.

Not that Elijah's troubles were unusual. A powerful, vindictive woman, Queen Jezebel, was after his life. He had slain her priests and shamed her church; and she was hot for his blood. "Well hath no fury like a woman scorned." This woman was a queen, able to wrap the king around her little finger. If there were not more important matters to consider, this would be an opportune point to study the place of women in history, especially in the light of the popular delusion that woman has only lately come to her day. Where are any present women to match, for power and personality, Deborah and Jael and Semiramis and Zenobia and Cleopatra? Every age has been woman's era—when the woman has been equal to it, for good or for evil.

The Long Desert Trek
Often, as I have seen lone Arabs afoot on the desert, I have envisaged the Prophet Elijah following the old, old trail that leads straight down through the Sinai Peninsula—the road of Abraham and of Jacob and of the patriarchs, the road of the twelve spies; and later, the road of the Holy Family on its flight into Egypt. It was not easy going. The blazing sun by day gave way to the bone-piercing cold of night. Some of the sand was heavy under foot, and sometimes the stones were sharp. Occasional sand-storms caused the wayfarer to cower and wait, completely covered by his robe. The water problem was a constant one, and the food problem, too.

In the strength of the meat supplied him beside the juniper tree, Elijah trudged forty days, until he came to Horeb, the sacred mountain of the Law, with all of its moving memories of Moses and the Israelites. Now that the way is being made comparatively easy for travellers, I hope thousands of modern prophets will go to Sinai, and climb its steep and stony sides; and look out upon the peerless vista of the mountain tops, and visit the traditional caves of Elijah, with its sentinel cypresses. For a new consciousness of Sinai and its meaning would stiffen the message of the pulpit.

The Egotism of the Pious

This runaway prophet, scared of a woman, had the great lesson of his life to learn: amidst the reverberating cries of Sinai. Challenged by the Voice, he replied that all Israel had gone back on God—forsaken the covenant, thrown down the altars and slain the prophets. "I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life." Paraphrasing that genuine spiritual concern, partly it was egotism of the pious. "I, even I only, am left," echoed too strongly in my friend's talk. This state of mind is turned inward, instead of upward; it is more conscious of self than of God.

So, amidst the grandeur of Sinai's peaks, Elijah was taught the lesson that God has His strength in quietness and in confidence. First the wind, then the earthquake, then the fire came upon the spot, in awesome majesty. But God was in none of them. Then came the still, small voice; and lo, it was the voice of the Living God. Soothingly, steadily, serenely, it bade Elijah get back to his own job as a prophet; and to do the work that awaited him, and that was lying neglected while he was indulging in a fit of spiritual doldrums. As a matter of course, the Voice reassured him, there were yet seven thousand in Israel who had not followed the fashion of Baalim; and Elijah's place was back among them. Jezebel or no Jezebel, God was still in heaven, and His hosts were still on earth, even though Elijah was in the dumps.

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS

What millions died! That Caesar might be great!—Thomas Campbell.
The public's why, the public's nothing better than a great baby.—Thomas Chalmers.
Go put your creed into your deed. Nor speak with double tongue.—Emerson.
I called the New World into existence to redress the balance of the Old.—George Canning.

M. MORISSET IS AGAIN PRESIDENT

Elected Head of French-Canadian Institute of Ottawa for Second Term.

Mr. Maurice Morisset was re-elected president of the "Institut Canadien-Français" of Ottawa for his second term at the general annual meeting which was held last night.

In presenting his annual report as president, Mr. Morisset said that the "Institut" was happy to join its applause to those who greeted throughout Canada the proposed abolition of regulation 17 and congratulated the provincial government for what was accomplished. He also took occasion to congratulate many of the members of the institute who took such an active part in the solution of this problem. Mr. Morisset mentioned Senator N. A. Belcourt, Samuel Genest, Albert Pinard, Aurélien Bélanger and Louis Côté, and also the educational association.

He also congratulated all the officers and members for their active work during the last year and thanked the local newspapers for the publicity accorded to the different organizations.

Mr. Albert Roque, the secretary, read a reply from Lord Willingdon, Governor-General, to a letter sent by the institute regarding the reading in French of the message of the king at the celebration on July 1, stating:

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.—Luke 12:32.
Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceedingly fine.

Thought with patience He stands waiting, with exactness grinds he all.—Longfellow.
A good man is the best friend, and therefore soonest to be chosen, longest to be retained, and indeed never to be parted with, unless he cease to be that for which he was chosen.—Jeremy Taylor.

GIVEN SECOND TERM.



Mr. Maurice Morisset, re-elected at the annual meeting of the "Institut Canadien-Français" of Ottawa, president for his second term.

that he was deeply touched and honored of the appreciation of the members.

The president also announced that the institute will celebrate this year the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

Other reports presented were: Treasurer, Mr. Herve Pratt; librarian, Mr. Rene Seguin; secretary, Mr. Albert Roque; president of the Literary Circle, Mr. Louis-Joseph Chagnon; director of sports, George Beauregard, Jr.; musical director, Mr. Myville Belleau; president of censors' bureau, Mr. Jules Castonguay; auditor, Mr. Valmore Boudreau.

Mr. Samuel Genest acted as president of the election of officers, giving the following results: President, Mr. Maurice Morisset; vice-president, Mr. D. T. Robichaud; secretary, Mr. Albert Roque; treasurer, Mr. Herve Pratt; librarian, Mr. Honorius Marier; director of house entertainments, Mr. Georges Beauregard, Jr.; musical director, Mr. Myville Belleau; councillors, Messrs. H. Beaulieu, Henri Dessaint and Jean Genest.

Mr. Genest congratulated Mr. Morisset for the excellent report he had presented. Mr. Louis Côté also thanked Mr. Morisset for the congratulations addressed to him. He stated that he found that the resolutions passed at the educational convention in 1910 were the bases of the solution of this question.

It was decided that the sum of \$300

should be given as treasurer, and on account of being out of the meet by candle light.

PLAN EARLY START IN TEACHING SWIMMING

The playgrounds committee will endeavor to make the swimming instruction for school children more successful than last year.

Ald. Edsall, at the committee meeting held last night, approved of the plan to have the classes start in the city of children which should be given as treasurer, and on account of being out of the meet by candle light.

Advertisement for Robert Burns Panetelas 10c and Invincibles 15c cigars. Includes a portrait of a woman and the text 'The Best Cigar in Canada'.

Used Car Market Report and Buyers' Protective Guide No. 9

OCTOBER 1st, 1927

This data is compiled and published monthly for your protection. Cut this out for ready reference. You should not pay more than the prices listed below FOR CARS IN FIRST CLASS CONDITION. Serial numbers are also shown to guide you in determining the correct year and model of car. Consult the guide before deciding on any purchase. The latest copy should be in plain view wherever used cars are offered for sale.

Table listing car models and prices for various brands including Cadillac, Hupmobile, Oakland, Oldsmobile, Jewett, Paige, Maxwell, McLaughlin-Buick, Nash, Overland, and Willys-Knight. Each entry includes model year and price.

Advertisement for Sobie Fly Pads, featuring a fly illustration and text: 'Sobie is in MONTREAL. WHEN USING WILSON'S FLY PADS READ DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW THEM EXACTLY. Best of all Fly Killers—10c and 25c per packet at all Druggists, Grocers and General Stores.'

Prospective new-car purchasers may estimate the allowance price of their own used cars by deducting from the above prices the necessary expenses for reconditioning and handling.