lst Kings

19:3 Elijah was AFRAID and ran for his life.19:12 ... after the fire came a Still Small Voice.

- 1 Kings 1-11 Solo Solomon
- 1 Kings 12-14 Rebellious Rehoboam
- 1 Kings 15-17 Asa's Ascendency
- 1 Kings 18 Elijah's Exhibition



- 1 Kings 19 11 Kings 2
 - Elijah's Escape & Exit

7-17-22



Elijah Fed by Angel c. 1662 by Ferdinand Bol



Story of Elijah includes some of the Greatest Miracles in the Bible Two of which are his Chariot of Fire and his encounter with the

Still Small Voice



Elijah & God Webb Space Telescope ... July 11, 2022 First Image > Galaxy cluster SMACS 0723 that is 4.6 Billion Light-years away If you held a grain of sand up to the sky at arm's length, that tiny speck is the size of Webb's view HERE Expand a square ... Each Galaxy w 100s of **BILLIONS** of stars!

NASA.gov/webbfirstimages/



Our Milky Way Galaxy > About 100-200,000 Light-years across

About 300+ *Billion* stars

Our Sun is here

27,000 Light-years from center

First Image July 12, 2022 from the Webb Space Telescope focused on a FAR AWAY cluster of GALAXIES

Then the stupendous Carina Nebula from Earth 7,000 Light-years

Light-year = 5.88 *Trillion* Miles



Webb Space Telescope First Images 7-11-22 8,500 Light-years away

> Carina Nebula 300 Light Years Wide

Open Cluster in Carina Nebula Focused on NE EDGE

60 Trillion Miles

2 LIGHT-YEARS

Western Edge of cluster Light-year is 5.88 Trillion Miles Open Cluster in Carina Nebula

5.88 Trillion Miles

Elijah Called on the Creator of ALL THIS



- ¹ Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.
- ² So Jezebel sent a *messenger* to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me,
 - be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."
- Why didn't she just send an assassin?
- Or her local sheriff? ... you know, the one she used to ...
 - **Kill All the Other Prophets?**



Anyway ... ³ Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, ⁴ while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. ELIJAH was *afraid* ...



GREAT Fearless Elijah who fought the Priests of Baal Elijah goes on the lamb

Alternate Title Run Elijah Run







Elijah on the lamb ... goes to Beer-sheba ... leaves servant Goes a day into wilderness ...





Jezebel – means "Where is the prince [Baal]?" Elijah – means "Yah[weh] is my God"

There is a psychological drama here ...

Perhaps the reason Jezebel sent *messenger* first is because she could not get assassins *quick* enough

There is a LOT to be said of Jezebel ...

Evil ... Powerful ... MURDERER ... she had been

KILLING PROPHETS for MONTHS



We guess for longer ... Obadiah hiding some ... now Elijah ... Killed ALL Her Best Priests!

While Elijah is running ... a LOT takes place He is helped ... told to go to Mt. Horeb or Sinai End of 1 Kings 19 ... God tells Elijah to Anoint several as new Kings Elijah is told to anoint Elisha as his successor > We'll shall return to Elijah

> Elijah & Elisha by Abraham Bloemaert 1564–1651

1 Kings 19 While Elijah is running ... a LOT takes place This story ... the lesson ... the morale much *more* than evil Jezebel ... Elijah runs ... we are told, *because* he is *SCARED*

When on Mt. Carmel ... Elijah was **FEARLESS**

God was with him ... now it *appears* God left him



We know very LITTLE

What we DO KNOW ... is that Depression HITS Hard Depression Can Hit the BEST of Us

- 20 Ben-Hadad of Aram/Syria w 32 kings > Ahab Ahab prevails ... after 2 years of struggles **Ben-Hadad pleads ... Ahab pardons him** 20:34 "On the basis of a treaty I will set you free." **Prophet said to Ahab, "LORD says:** 20:42 'You set free a man I had determined should die. Therefore, it is YOUR life for his life, your people for his people.'"
- 20:43 Sullen and angry,

King Ahab of Israel went to his palace in Samaria.



Naboth's Vineyard ... Jezebel's wicked scheming apparently AFTER Elijah's flight ... he's back

Ahab moans about Naboth's little vineyard ... Jezebel concocts a plot that gets Naboth STONED Ahab takes the vineyard ... then Elijah shows up

Very, very interestingly ... Elijah blames AHAB

Ahab repents, tears his clothes ... seems contrite

Dogs will eat Jezebel by the walls of Jezreel ...



Ahab repented ... so God will wait & only punish his son's house **1 Kings 23 – Ahab killed in battle with Judah's King Jehoshaphat**

- 2 Kings 1 Ahab's son Ahaziah seeks help from Pagan Prophets
- Angel tells Elijah Elijah Confronts Ahaziah
- Ahaziah sends a Captain & 50 men
- Elijah calls down FIRE killing the 50 Ahaziah sends 50 AGAIN ... FIRE again Ahaziah sends 50 AGAIN for 3rd TIME
- The Captain kneels before Elijah Elijah & Captain go to King Ahaziah Elijah Condemns him & Ahaziah Dies



2 Kings 2 ... we see Elijah as a kind of Chief Prophet Lord has told him & others he's going up in a "WHIRLWIND"

Chariot of FIRE Horses of FIRE

Elijah Taken Up in Chariot of Fire c. 1740-1755 by Giuseppe Angeli





2 Kings 2:1 ... Great Miracle When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah & Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.

- Elisha pledges to stay with Elijah as he goes to Bethel
- "Company of Prophets" from Bethel

Likewise to Jericho "Company of Prophets" from Jericho

ALL know about the WHIRLWIND They go to the Jordan River



2 Kings 2 – Whirlwind 8 Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up struck the water with it.... crossed over on dry ground. 9 When they had crossed, Elijah asked Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. 10 "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours-otherwise, it will not."



Then the Chariot in the Whirlwind One Greatest Miracles in the Bible Miracle? ... or MORE than a Miracle?

A defining element of biblical REALITY



Like the Transfiguration that REVEALS

Our God above the Infinity of Star-filled Galaxies

There is a Spiritual Reality where God can ...

LISTEN CLOSELY

2 Kings 2 2:11 As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a Chariot of FIRE and Horses of FIRE appeared and separated the two of them, and



Elijah went up to **HEAVEN** in a WHIRLWIND

2:12 Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The Chariots and Horsemen of Israel!" 2 Kings 2 We cannot define well this event but // you believe it as written ... then Our Universe is BIGGER Far more Complex ... Far more Infinite

Greater ... Wider ... Deeper ... Richer than

ALL the Billions of Galaxies Elijah Rode *Thru* Them on a Chariot of FIRE To Heaven ... the Place of Our Everlasting Rest

Now let's back up ... take a breath ... THIS Elijah ... who like Moses ... had a Very powerful connection to Almighty God FIRE on Mt. Carmel ... FIRE 2x Kills Soldiers Chariot of FIRE ... Horses of FIRE ... FIRE



Elijah LISTENED to God

Now back track to a Jezreel ... Elijah ran a Marathon to Jezreel

Then got a message from Evil Queen Jezebel

³ Elijah was AFRAID and ran for his life.
When he came to Beersheba in Judah,
he left his servant there, ⁴ while he himself
went a day's journey into the wilderness.

You have got to know ... or ... rather ...



I am sure you DO KNOW ... that every sane man & woman At some point in their LIFE ... perhaps SEVERAL times ... has Felt Fear ... Been Afraid

Wanted to Run for Their Life

1 Kings 19:4-9 A Miracle no less than a Chariot of FIRE Only more humble ... endearing ... Listen closely to God's gentle hand ... 4 Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might DIE. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. Have you ever felt like that?

Johnny Paycheck did – Take This Job & Shove It!



Elijah came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said.

Elijah Fed by Angel c. 1662 by Ferdinand Bol



1 Kings 19:4-9 A Miracle no less than a Chariot of FIRE Only more humble ... endearing ... "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 19:5 Then he lay down under the bush and FELL ASLEEP. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up & eat." 19:6 He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

19:7 The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." I hope YOU have said that to someone ... Sometime, somewhere, fed bread & said Get UP and EAT ... for the Journey is HARD **19:8 So Elijah got up and ate and drank.** Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. **19:9** There he went into a cave and spent the night.



Elijah on the lamb ... goes to Beer-sheba ... leaves servant Goes a day into wilderness ...







After 40 days on the road ... 19:9 Elijah went into a cave and spent the night. Sometimes ... all we need ... is ... is ... Someone to give us a little bread ... Take a little Road Trip ... then get a GOOD NIGHT's SLEEP ... **Good Sleep in SAFE PLACE** This Miracle of Bread and Rest ... paved the way **Rest of Elijah's Journey**



Miracle GREATER than a Chariot of FIRE Word of the LORD came to Elijah: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

10 Elijah replied, "I have been very zealous ... Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars ... killed prophets



11 The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

God Comes Near Elijah as God did to Moses



Miracle GREATER than a Chariot of FIRE Great & powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks

but the LORD was not in the wind.

After the wind there was an earthquake,



but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

12 After the earthquake came a FIRE,

but the LORD was not in the FIRE.

Miracle GREATER than a Chariot of FIRE And after the fire came a gentle whisper. **KJV ... Still Small Voice** 19:13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.



Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Elijah repeats complaint ... his devotion ... trying to kill me too

19:15 The LORD said to Elijah, "Go back the way you came ..."

1 Kings 19:4-9 Lord reveals to Elijah that there are 7,000 who have NOT bent the knee The great miracle is in a SLOW READING of **1 Kings 19** See GOD, Creator of the Universe, gentle care ... **Charles H. Spurgeon in 1916 observed this** Many have been converted to God by the Still Small Voice whom no wind, though it rose to a hurricane, no earthquake,



Charles H. Spurgeon in 1916 observed: though it rent the world to its centre, and no fire, though it licked up the forests, could ever move.

A gentle word has done it.

Sometimes that Still Small Voice has come to us by apparently very, very inadequate means.

It is astonishing what Little Things God will use....

He wanted to soften the heart of that rough prophet Jonah, and he sent a worm and a gourd...



Charles H. Spurgeon in 1916 observed: God would bring Peter to repentance, and he bade a cock to crow. It was a strange preacher, but the cock was as good as a dean of a cathedral to the Apostle. Means may seem to be absolutely ridiculous.... I remember ... story of a man, a blasphemer, profane, an atheist, who ... written on a piece of paper, "God is No Where"



Charles H. Spurgeon in 1916 observed: He bade his child read it, for he would make his child an atheist too. And the child spelt it, "God is N-o-w H-e-r-e. God is Now Here." It was a truth, instead of a lie, and the arrow pierced the man's own heart. God IS Here ... Always Here We just need to listen to the Still Small Voice

God IS Here ... NOW ... Always

We just need to listen to the Still Small Voice

Forever & Forever

000