

June 27–July 3

1 Kings 17–19

“If the Lord Be God, Follow Him”



Power and Authority given to Elijah

What act did Elijah perform on the mount of transfiguration?

What act did Elijah perform in the Kirkland temple?

Joseph Smith

“The word turn here [in Malachi 4:5–6] should be translated bind, or seal. But what is the object of this important mission? or how is it to be fulfilled? The keys are to be delivered, the spirit of Elijah is to come, the Gospel to be established, the Saints of God gathered, Zion built up, and the Saints to come up as saviors on Mount Zion.

“But how are they to become saviors on Mount Zion? By building their temples, erecting their baptismal fonts, and going forth and receiving all the ordinances, baptisms, confirmations, washings, anointings, ordinations and sealing powers upon their heads, in behalf of all their progenitors who are dead, and redeem them that they may come forth in the first resurrection and be exalted to thrones of glory with them; and herein is the chain that binds the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers, which fulfills the mission of Elijah.” (History of the Church, 6:184)

Power and Authority given to Elijah

Joseph Smith

"Why send Elijah? Because he holds the keys of the authority to administer in all the ordinances of the priesthood; and without the authority is given, the ordinances could not be administered in righteousness...."

"Elijah was the last prophet that held the keys of the priesthood." (History of the Church, 4:211)

Power and Authority given to Elijah

Helaman 10:3-5

What had Nephi demonstrated to the Lord?

Power and Authority given to Elijah

Helaman 10:6-11

What power and authority did the Lord give to Nephi?

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 16:30-33

What did Ahab do that made him evil “above all that were before him”?

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 17:1

What would cause it to rain again?

Joseph Fielding Smith

"The reason I put emphasis upon this is to impress you with the sealing power by which Elijah was able to close the heavens that there should be no rain nor dew until he spoke." (Elijah the Prophet and His Mission, pg. 15)

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 17:8-16

How did this women demonstrate faith?

How was she rewarded after she had demonstrated her faith?

Lynn G. Robbins

"The story of the widow of Zarephath is an example of extreme poverty used to teach... [that] faith isn't tested so much when the cupboard is full as when it is bare. In these defining moments, the crisis doesn't create one's character—it reveals it. The crisis is the test....

"Her choice—does she eat, or does she sacrifice her last meal and hasten death? Perhaps she will sacrifice her own food, but could she sacrifice the food meant for her starving son?

"Elijah understood the doctrine that blessings come after the trial of our faith. He wasn't being selfish. As the Lord's servant, Elijah was there to give, not to take....

"One reason the Lord illustrates doctrines with the most extreme circumstances is to eliminate excuses. If the Lord expects even the poorest widow to pay her mite, where does that leave all others who find that it is not convenient or easy to sacrifice?"

(CR, April 2005)

Luke 4:25-26

25 But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land;

26 But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow.

(Elias is Greek translation, Elijah)

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 17:17-24

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 18:17-18

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 18:21

What is he accusing the people of, and what did he tell them they must do?

John Taylor

"Let us feel as the prophet Elijah did on a certain occasion, 'If the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.' There was a disposition in ancient Israel to have a part of God and a part of the devil or Baal—an idolatrous god which was worshipped by them. I sometimes think that in some respects we are a good deal like them. Do we believe our religion? Yes. Do we believe in the holy priesthood and that God has restored it to the earth? Yes. Do we believe that God has established his kingdom? Yes; but still we would like a good deal of our own way.... We often wish the Lord would not exact certain things of us; we would rather have our own way." (JD, 21:53)

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 18:22,25-29

Elijah Exercises His Power and Authority

1Kgs 18:36-39

What was Elijah's objective with this demonstration of God's power?

Still Small Voice

1Kgs 19:11-12

How did the Lord communicate with Elijah?

James J. Hamula

"Learn to hear the voice of the Lord. His is a still, small, and whisper-like voice. The voice of the Spirit is described as a still, small voice of perfect mildness, as if it were a whisper. It is one that is felt more than it is heard. It comes in the form of thoughts, feelings, and impressions. To hear such a voice, you must be still and quiet in your own soul, laying aside your excess laughter and light-mindedness. While it may not seem easy to so discipline your life, hearing the precious, loving voice of the Lord will sustain you in every circumstance and is therefore worth every effort." (CR, Oct. 2008)

A. Theodore Tuttle

"When one hears the still small voice of the Spirit testifying that Jesus is the Christ, this kind of knowledge, for that person, is as valid as a mountain of so-called 'scientific' evidence. That person really knows a truth. It affects his whole being. It affects all other kinds of knowledge that he may have.

"This kind of knowledge is not restricted to a special few. It is available to all who will receive it. It is our Father's desire that all his children shall come to a knowledge of his son." (CR, April 1966)

Next Week:

July 4–10

2 Kings 2–7

“There is a Prophet in Israel”

