

9. The drought has obviously had its intended impact on the people of Israel. Since the Lord has led Elijah to confront Ahab, then he has concluded that the drought has reached its “breaking point: the moment of greatest strain at which someone or something gives way.”<sup>1</sup> “The point at which physical, mental, or emotional strength gives way under stress. The point at which a condition or situation becomes critical.”<sup>2</sup>
10. Elijah is God’s man for the crisis, now prepared to exploit Samaria’s breaking point. Regardless of the population’s decline into reversionism through the worship of Baal, the drought has inspired many Jews to return to the worship of the God of Israel.
11. On the other hand, Ahab’s soul has been so inculcated with the lie that he is incapable of seeing the error of his ways. When a prepared man armed with truth confronts an unprepared man armed only with the lie, the outcome is obvious.
12. All of the challenges Elijah faced, from Cherith to Zárezphath, from the **resuscitated** cosmic widow to the spiritual widow, the deceased child to the **resurrected** boy, Elijah has made good decisions from the resources of the Word of God.
13. Ahab is now the person that has to get his mind right. To achieve this objective, circumstances must occur that vividly reveal to him and to Israel that legitimate power is never employed by religion but only by the omnipotence of God.
14. The top priority in this sequence of events is the occurrence of rain and lots of it. The divine objective is to provide it, but only when the people get their minds right about which resource is capable of doing so.
15. The Jews used to worship the God of Israel, but for decades have deviated to the worship of Baal and the decadent rituals and behaviors associated with this cult.
16. The only way that this contest can be resolved is for God to have a prepared man to be His assigned and approved spokesman. He must be a man with maximum doctrine, fearless in his opposition to the lie, which on this occasion is the worship of Baal.
17. Elijah must be fearless, undeterred, committed, convinced, and focused on the objective. Nothing is to deter him on his mission. He must be bold, assertive, in charge, and unrelenting.

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<sup>1</sup> *The New Oxford American Dictionary*, eds. Elizabeth J. Jewell and Frank Abate (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), s.v. “breaking point.” ”

<sup>2</sup> *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, 5th ed. (New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016), s.v. “breaking point.”



18. To be able to display these mental attributes, Elijah must have accumulated the doctrine necessary to do so. Elijah has a plan on how to deploy these attributes and in doing so he will be provided divine power to accomplish the objective.
19. The sustenance of a client nation is not maintained by human power. Politicians are not only incapable of consistent leadership from their own devices but by dependence on the power and approval of God to lead a nation successfully.
20. As far as the Northern Kingdom is concerned, King Ahab is the one who holds the political power. There is one man—one solitary man—who has the truth and is prepared to display it to the population.
21. The stability of the Northern Kingdom is at stake. Elijah has a plan he guarantees will resolve the meteorological crisis. To get this process started, Elijah must acquire an audience with the king and that's where Obadiah comes in.
22. This process started in Zarephath when the Lord came to Elijah with the imperatives, "Go now! Confront Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth!"
23. Elijah recruits Obadiah as his messenger boy to inform Ahab that he is back in town and they need to have a talk. To this request, Obadiah offers his concern:

**1 Kings 18:14** "You are saying, 'Go, say to your master, "Behold, Elijah is here"'; he will then kill me."

24. Elijah did not allow this complaint to interrupt the process when he responded:

**1 Kings 18:15** "As the Lord of hosts [ צְבָאוֹת ] ( *Jehovah Sevaoth*): the Lord of the Armies ] lives, before whom I stand [ Qal perfect of עָמַד ( 'amath)<sup>3</sup> ], I will surely show myself to him [ Ahab ] today."

**1 King 18:16** So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

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<sup>3</sup> עָמַד The prophetic office can be described as "standing before Yahweh" (1 Kings 17:1; 18:15). The wording shows that this expression does not refer to standing as a bodily posture but to service in the general sense: "God, before whom I stand" (Helmer Ringgren, "עָמַד" in *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, eds. G. Johannes Botterweck, Helmer Ringgren, and Heinz-Josef Fabry, trans. David E. Green [Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2001], 11:182).

25. **PRINCIPLE:** Elijah is a man for the crisis. His job is to challenge human authority. He is prepared to put God's *alētheia* on the line in opposition to human viewpoint whose principles are conceived in the heart of hell and deployed by Lucifer's recruited human followers.
26. **PRINCIPLE:** The legitimate power in times of national crisis is doctrine not only resident in the souls of believers, but their willingness to apply it to prevalent circumstances.
27. **PRINCIPLE:** The solution to the current crisis is not found in counter demonstrations in the public square and certainly not part of the violence and criminality raging therein.
28. **PRINCIPLE:** Jesus Christ controls history on behalf of the Pivot!
29. The solution is in the divine decree, not the swapping of human slobber!
30. Stand fast! This is a command that is issued to men such as Elijah and believers with respect to God and His Word. Examples include: 1 Corinthians 16:13; Galatians 5:1; Philippians 1:27, 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:15.
31. At this point the preliminaries that transpired over 3½ years have culminated in a face-to-face encounter between the principles:

**1 Kings 18:17** When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is this you, you troubler of Israel?"

1. Ahab has just endured over 1100 days of drought. He has governed over the devastation of his country. Crops, herds, and people have been overwhelmed.
2. Elijah had nothing to do with this. Remember this verse:

**1 Kings 17:1** Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word."

3. This was not Elijah's idea, the God of Israel appointed Elijah as His messenger and assigned him the duty of managing the drought to its conclusion. In other words, Elijah was commissioned to execute the operation until he was told otherwise. In the meantime, the Lord isolated him so he could get his mind right at Cherith and Zārephath. This directive was given to Elijah in:

