

A Gentle Whisper

1 Kings 19:11-12

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.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, 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. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

Elijah is the one being addressed in this text. Elijah had been sent by God to confront Israel (10 northern tribes) about the idol (Baal) worship. More specially, Elijah was to deal with King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel, who were the leaders of Baal worship.

Elijah's task was not easy, but God had always sustained him, even when he was exiled during a famine. The greatest feat was when Elijah asked God to send down fire on a sacrifice to show the people just who was the true God. Even after Elijah had poured twelve barrels of water on the sacrifice, God sent a fire that devoured the sacrifice and all the water.

Jezebel was not impressed and in fact it brought great wrath from her. She threatened to kill Elijah. Even though God had long supported him, Elijah went into a great depression and ran away. He had given up and wanted to die, claiming that he was the only one who believed in God. This is when God comes to him as our text points out.

This time of the year we encounter many storms as we go from winter to spring. Floods, hail and tornadoes are frequently a part of the news. These storms are powerful and very noisy. People who have been a part of tornadoes describe the sound like that of a roaring train. As destructive as the storms may be, people eventually recover and go on with their lives.

There are many storms in our lives as well. They vary from physical ruins to health-related devastations. When these afflict us, we can take comfort from the fact that God is our port from whatever storm is troubling us. He comes to us in the still quiet voice of His Word to bring us comfort of salvation and confidence that He is our everlasting help in every need. God especially uses times like that to strengthen our faith for what lies ahead.

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for your constant assurance that you are our continual stay in all of daily needs. Thank you for dying for our sins and winning eternal salvation for us. Thank you for rising on this Easter Sunday and bringing us eternal life and comfort in all the scary things of this life. The Lord is Risen! He is Risen indeed. Amen