

# Study Through the Bible

## The Elijah Chronicles – Study 1

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

### God Is True to His Word

*When we stand up for the Word of God, God stands up for us.*

At the time of 1 Kings, the worship of God was in disarray following a string of godless monarchs. The current king of Israel was Ahab, who in 1 Kings 16:30 is described as having “done more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him.” It was not a bright time for Israel.

Elijah arrived on this scene with little introduction, speaking God’s word to Ahab: *There will be no rain or dew until God says so.* When the water ran out, God led Elijah to the home of a widow who had only a little water and meal left to share with her son. The unfolding drama is a testimony of God’s faithfulness to his own.

Scripture:  
1 Kings 17

Based on:

“The Elijah Chronicles,” Series Builder by Kenton C. Anderson, PREACHING TODAY SERMONS



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PART 1

## Identify the Current Issue

First Kings 17 begins with Elijah standing confidently before Ahab. Elijah's certainty was striking because of its audacity. How could he act so outrageously unless he had truly heard from God? The text takes pains to emphasize the authority of "the Word of the Lord." It is the Word of the Lord that leads Elijah each step of the way. This emphasis culminates in verse 24 with a dramatic statement of faith: "Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the Word of the Lord in your mouth is the truth."

PART 2

## Discover the Eternal Principles

Teaching point one: God honors those who take a stand for him.

Teaching point two: God stands behind his Word.

- With which statement do you find yourself agreeing most:
- 1) The Bible is mostly true but has some errors in translation.
  - 2) The Bible is written by men; therefore it's thoroughly flawed.
  - 3) The Bible is inspired by God and true in its entirety.
  - 4) The Bible is true in its broad strokes but false in its details.

Explain why you chose the statement you did. What difference does it make which statement you believe? How does that belief affect your life?

Teaching point three: God's Word to us is clear.

Teaching point four: Miracles happen when we stand up for God's Word.

PART 3

## Apply Your Findings

"Don't neglect your critical faculties. Remember that God is a rational God, who has made us in his own image. God invites and expects us to explore his double revelation, in nature and Scripture, with the minds he has given us, and to go on in the development of a Christian mind to apply his marvelous revealed truth to every aspect of the modern and the postmodern world." (John Stott, "CT Classic: Basic Stott," interview by Roy McCloughry, CHRISTIANITY TODAY, 1-8-96)

—Study by Kenton C. Anderson, with JoHannah Reardon

