

THE TISHBITE

#4, Obadiah – I Kings 18:5-16

I Kings 18:1b-2a, the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth." 2 So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab.

The Lord spoke to Elijah and sent him back into dangerous territory. Back to Israel! Back to where the prophets of the Lord were murdered by Ahab's wife. Back to face the king that hated him.

So leaving the security of a foreign nation, he immediately obeyed God.

5 Then Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys; perhaps we will find grass and keep the horses and mules alive, and not have to kill some of the cattle."

6 So they divided the land between them to survey it; Ahab went one way by himself and Obadiah went another way by himself.

[1.] As Christians, living in America, should we expect our ministry to always be in a secure and loving environment?

[2.] Why is it possible to find hostility in one's own congregation?

[3.] v:5, Why did Ahab order Obadiah to go look for grass, water etc?

[4.] v:6, From the following, how do you think divided the land, was done?

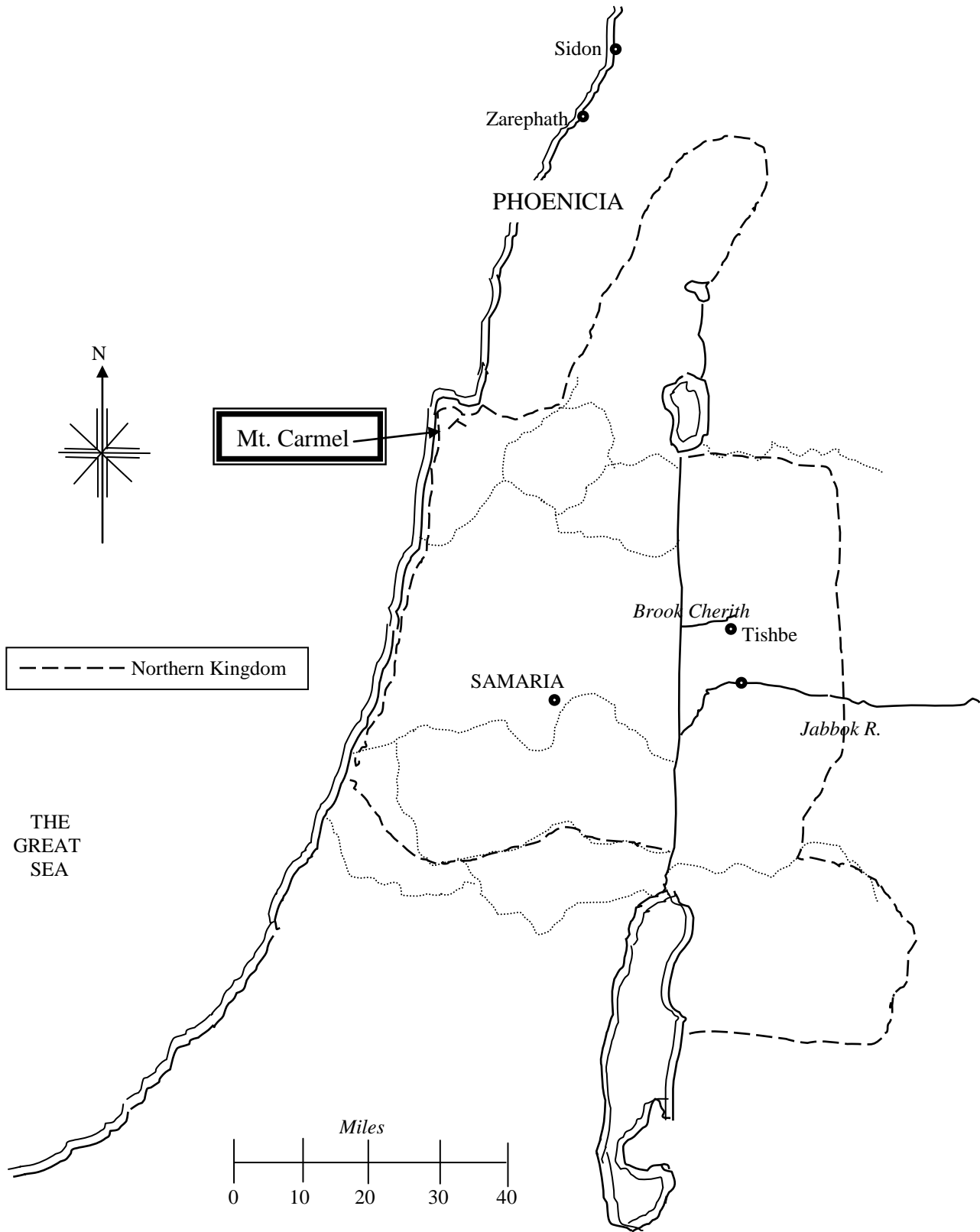
a) Obadiah ordered Ahab to search in such and such an area.

b) Ahab ordered Obadiah to search in such and such an area.

c) They flipped a coin.

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7 Now as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him,



7b and he recognized him and fell on his face and said, "Is this you, Elijah my master?" 8 He said to him, "It is I. Go, say to your master, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'"

[5.] v:7a, From last lesson you decided Elijah's probable route to go see Ahab. From v:6 we know Ahab searched one area and Obadiah searched another. Now, considering the fact that Elijah met him (Obadiah), on your map (pg#2) decide and write down the two areas that Ahab and Obadiah probably searched.

[6.] v:7a again, Interpret Proverbs 16:7-9 and write down the "real" director of the Ahab/Obadiah search.

[7.] And while you are still in Proverbs, interpret Proverbs 20:24 and apply it to Elijah's journey?

Back to I Kings 18:7-8

[8.] v:7b-8, Elijah my master, Go, say to your master, These verses reference two masters. Which one is which?

master, *OT:113 ' (*aw-done*); or (shortened) 'adon (*aw-done*); from an unused root (meaning to rule); sovereign, i.e. controller (human or divine):

9 He said, "What sin have I committed, that you are giving your servant into the hand of Ahab to put me to death?"

[9.] v:9, What sin have I committed, When Obadiah said this, which of the following did he mean?

a) I think I'm doing OK! Ask what you will.

b) What evil did I do for you to order this sure

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10 " As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent to search for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he made the kingdom or nation swear that they could not find you.

11 "And now you are saying, 'Go, say to your master, "Behold, Elijah is here."' 12 "It will come about when I leave you that the Spirit of the Lord will carry you where I do not know; so when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant have feared the Lord from my youth.

[10.] v:10, Ahab's man hunt was complete. What would have happened to any one who had lied?

[11.] v:11-12, the Spirit of the Lord will carry you, What did Obidiah imagine would happen when he left Elijah?

From v:12, the Spirit of the Lord will carry you, : Read through the following verses from Revelation and write down John's, journey "in the Spirit".

[12.] Rev 1:10-20,

[13] Rev 4:1-2,

[14] Rev 17:1-5,

[15] Rev 21:9-11,

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Back to I Kings, chapter 18.

13 " Has it not been told to my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, that I hid a hundred prophets of the Lord by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water? 14 "And now you are saying, 'Go, say to your master, "Behold, Elijah is here"' ; he will then kill me."

15 Elijah said, " As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today."

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

[16.] v:9, 12, & 14, If Obadiah told Ahab of Elijah's presence, of what was he sure?

[17.] How would it be possible for Ahab to kill Obadiah if God didn't allow it?

[18.] If God wanted Obadiah dead, did He need Ahab or could He, just as well, use a flea?

[19.] v:15, The meaning of Elijah's statement was:

a) I'll see Ahab in a vision.

b) Ahab invited me to a picnic.

c) Whether you (Obadiah) direct me or not, today I will speak with Ahab.

[20.] v:16, Obadiah consented but why do you think he might still have fear?

[21.] xtra credit. OK, now review v7-16 again and write down, "who" did the most talking?

[22.] more extra credit. When you are frightened or frustrated, do you talk (a lot) & get anxious or do you pray?

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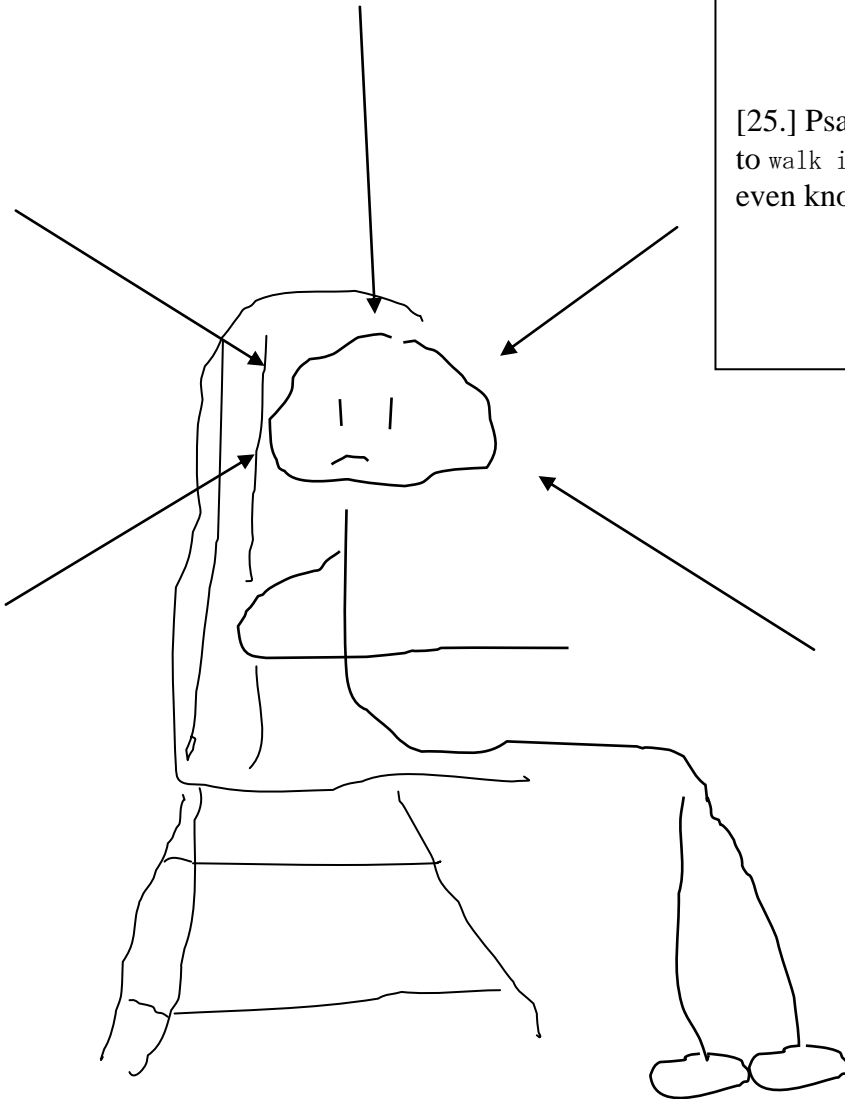
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Back to I Kings 18:16.

[23.] v:16 again, If as Christians, we experience fear in our ministry, where do you think it comes from?

[24.] Why do you think God doesn't remove a Christian's fear in ministry?

[25.] Psalm 1:1, How is it possible for a Christian to walk in the counsel of the wicked, without even knowing it?



* New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary