

Trusting God In The Valley Of The Shadow Of Death

Elijah: A Man of Heroism and Humility

Scripture Reading: *Hebrews 11:32-40*

- A. *Hebrews 11* is like a CliffsNotes version of the men and women of faith in the Old Testament.
 - 1. "Women received back their dead by resurrection..." (11:35).
 - 2. Elijah may not be mentioned, but he almost certainly would have been on the writer's mind.
- B. The point? God specializes in impossibilities! (*Jeremiah 32:17,27; Luke 1:37; 18:27*).
- C. And often, He uses people in the process.

I. The Valley of the Shadow of Death

- A. "After this..." (1 Kings 17:17)
- B. "The son of the woman...his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him."

- C. Elijah stood confident, not in his own power, but in his Lord's power.

- D. He had learned the truth contained in *Psalms 91*.

- E. It was before God that Elijah raised his tough questions.

- F. Four statements of great faith:
 - 1. I am where I am because that is where God wants me.
 - 2. I am in His keeping.
 - 3. I am under His training.
 - 4. He will show me His purposes in His time.

- G. Remember! While Elijah was heroic in his exploits of faith, he was also a model of humility.

II. Walking in the Ancient Paths of Faith

- A. Listen to Jesus' exhortation for those who wish to be people of God (*Luke 6:44-48*).

- B. Elijah approached his difficulties with:
 - 1. Calmness and contentment.
 - 2. Gentleness and self-control.
 - 3. Faith and humility.