

Discouragement – Part 3

April 6, 2022

Doubt leads to discouragement which leads to despair.

- I. Powerful feelings
 - A. Jonah – Anger
 - B. Asaph – Covetousness, jealousy, discontent
- II. Worldly culture and satanic suggestions
- III. Weakness and Weariness of the flesh

- I. Nehemiah and the children of _____ – Neh. 4:10-23
 - A. Source – _____ and _____ 10
 - B. Solution – strong _____ despite hardship, 13–23

Application: More often than not, when we are being tempted to discouragement, our flesh and the Devil will use more than one means of attack.

- II. _____ after Mount Carmel – 1 Kings 17-19
 - A. Source – Weariness of the flesh and spirit
 1. Extended _____ – Chap. 17
 - He had been on the “most wanted” list since he told Ahab that even the dew of heaven would be stopped because of their sin. 17:1
 - He had spent the years on the run and witnessing God’s provision for him
 - He had just received confirmation of his prophetic office.
 2. Exhausting _____ – Chap. 18
 - He confronted the prophets of Baal (and the sin of the whole nation)
 - He witnessed a great miracle from God. (fire consuming the alter)
 3. Energetic _____
 4. Exerting _____
 - He built the alter, dug a trench, and performed the sacrifice.
 - He slew the 400 prophets of Baal
 - He ran down the mountain, on foot, and beat Ahab to Jezreel (a distance of about 15 miles).
 - B. Symptoms
 1. He ran from Jezebel to Beersheba – a moment of weakness of the flesh.

2. Giving up – wishing his life was over

Application: Never make a decision when you are coming off a “mountain top” in life. You will not be in a position to make a decision that is God-honoring either due to fatigue or euphoria.

C. Solution – Rest, sustenance, Revival, and Getting back to the work 19:5-18

1. _____ – Elijah went to sleep after his traveling

Application: Sometimes one of the most spiritual things that we can do is take a nap.

2. _____ – God provided food for him to eat
3. _____ - the 40 days in the wilderness – the victory over discouragement/despair will take some time, we must recognize this in order to avoid a spiral. God was with him the entire time though preparing him for the work he was calling him to do.

Application: we must meet the physical needs of the body in order to keep ourselves physically and mentally in a place where we can honor God with our decisions.

4. _____ – He was spoken to by God in a “still small voice”, God provided the personal companion that he needed.
5. Getting back to the _____ – He was told to anoint three men and reminded that there were those that had not bowed the knee to Baal.

Application: We are never alone in the work of the Lord. There is, and always will be, a faithful remnant. The feeling of isolation is just one more attack in the arsenal of the devil to discourage the Child of God.

We have considered four of the original ten areas in which we are tempted to discouragement, but there are still many more ways in which we are tempted to doubt what God is doing, be discouraged in the work God has called us to, or to be in despair even to the point of our lives.

1. False teaching
2. Past upbringing
3. Personal experience
4. A deceitful heart
5. Stubborn unbelief
6. Ingrained habits of wrong thinking

Application: The same promise God made to _____ we have today. Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.