

CHOOSING THE *Extraordinary* LIFE

ELIJAH'S 7 SECRETS FOR
SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

**SECRET #3:
WAITING ON GOD'S TIMING**
1 KINGS 17:1-3

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Introduction: As we continue our study on the life of Elijah, we are going to discover the third “secret” for living a successful and significant life: Waiting on God’s timing. Elijah’s life demonstrates that waiting time does not have to be wasted time.

I. Waiting On God: The Norm For God’s Extraordinary Servants

Isaiah 40:29-31 ²⁹ “He [God] gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. ³⁰ Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, ³¹ Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.”

II. The Benefits of Waiting on God

A. Waiting Reminds Us of Our Need For God

Philippians 2:13 (Phillips) “It is God who is at work within you, giving you the will and the power to achieve His purpose.”

B. Waiting Allows Us to Recharge Our Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Batteries

C. Waiting Can Prepare Us For an Even Bigger Mission

III. **Elijah: A Case Study On Waiting On God** (1 Kings 17:1-3)

A. **Elijah's Success in Samaria** (1 Kings 17:1)

1 Kings 17:1 "Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, 'As the LORD, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.'"

B. **Elijah's Waiting at Cherith and Zarephath** (1 Kings 17:2-3)

1 Kings 17:2-3 ² "The word of the LORD came to him, saying, ³ 'Go away from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.'"

Two Purposes For Elijah's Waiting

1. **Condemnation** of Israel
2. **Preparation** of Elijah for a future mission

Conclusion