

Growth Group Questions – 6/6/2021 – Jack Kapinga

1) Take a moment to recount the situation in Israel during the reign of King Ahab. Refer to 1 Kings 16:29-17:1 if you need to. What would it have been like to be a faithful believer in those days?

Read 1 Kings 18:1-18.

2) How did Jezebel respond in verse 4 to God's discipline through drought and famine? How can similar things still happen today?

3) What's noticeable about Ahab's response, both what he does and doesn't do? Why is his expedition to look for grass in verses 2 to 6 so ridiculous?

Quote from the sermon: "Your society is plunging into evil and depravity, turning to all manner of false gods, ignoring the obvious curse that it's living under, turning ever further from the Lord and his truth, totally unwilling to repent, devoting itself to finding its own solutions, and becoming ever more aggressive toward those who are faithful. After years of sin and suffering it must have felt like the Lord was losing the battle, like his kingdom was crumbling, like he was being pushed out of the picture. It must have felt like God was dead."

4) How is our society in Australia today similar to what's described in our text? Can we be tempted to think that God is dead?

5) Share ways in which we as Christians are now seen as "the bad guys" and as a result are increasingly coming under attack.

6) How is what we're told about Obadiah in verses 3 & 4 an encouragement, as well as the fact that the Lord preserved this man, and through him 100 prophets? How can we find similar encouragement in our situation?

7) Why do you think Obadiah became so fearful as described in verses 9 to 14? How are we just like him?

8) How would Elijah's mission in verse 1, his providential meeting with Obadiah in verse 7, and his reassuring words to him in verse 15 have been an encouragement to this man?

9) How is the coming of God's ultimate messenger, Jesus Christ, an encouragement to us today? How does his coming remind us that God's not dead, that he's still in control, and still looking after his people, no matter how bad things get? Consider Hebrews 13:5b-8.