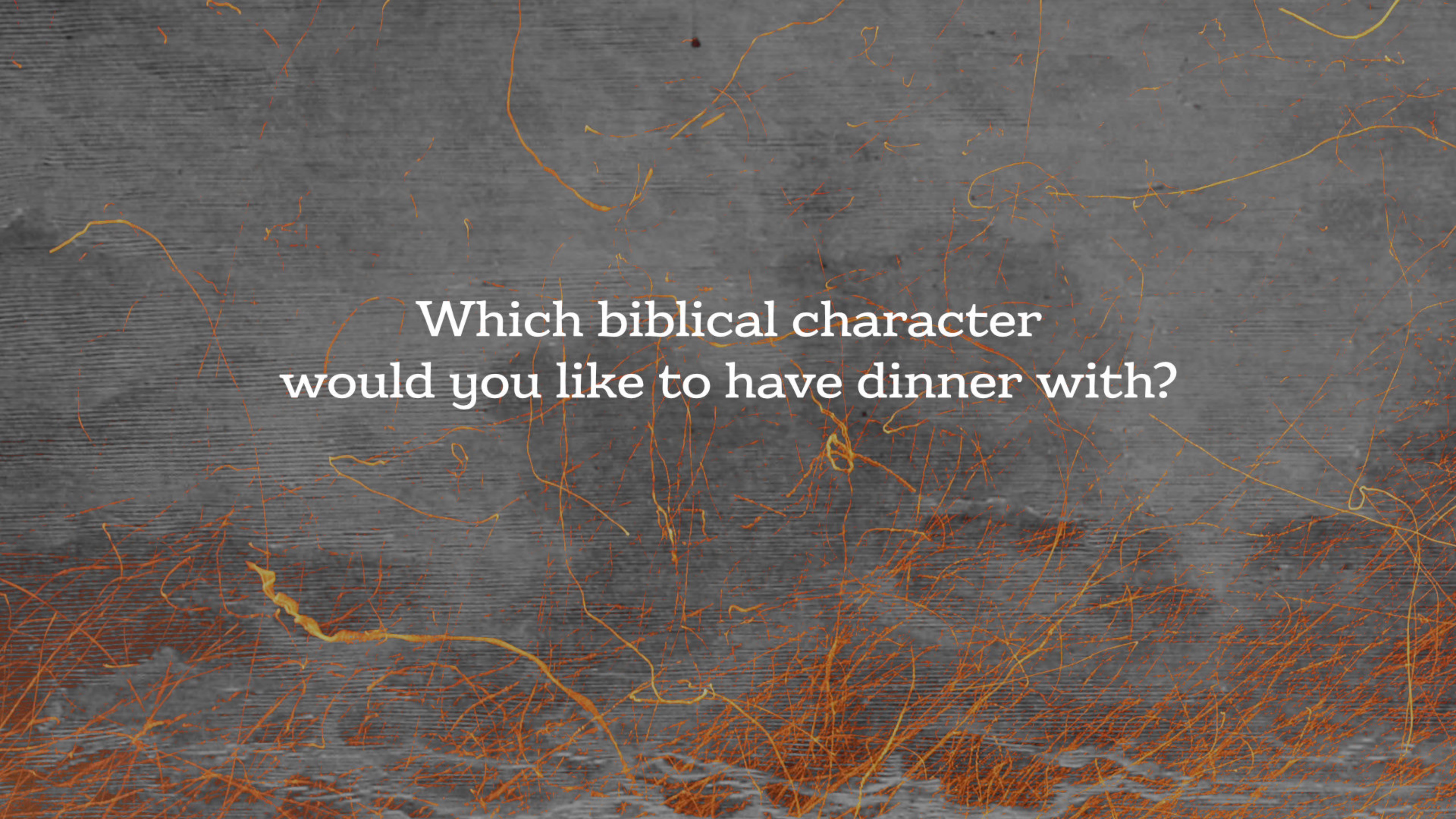


A blue bird is shown in flight, its wings spread wide, against a background of a rocky, hilly landscape. The ground is covered with dense, orange-brown grass. A bright, circular light source, possibly the sun or moon, is visible in the sky, creating a lens flare effect. The word "ELIJAH" is written in large, bold, red letters with a white outline, positioned across the middle of the image.

**ELIJAH**





Which biblical character  
would you like to have dinner with?



our story  
in Elijah's story

incredible highs  
& painful lows

# ELIJAH

our culture  
in Elijah's culture

spiritual compromise

moral confusion

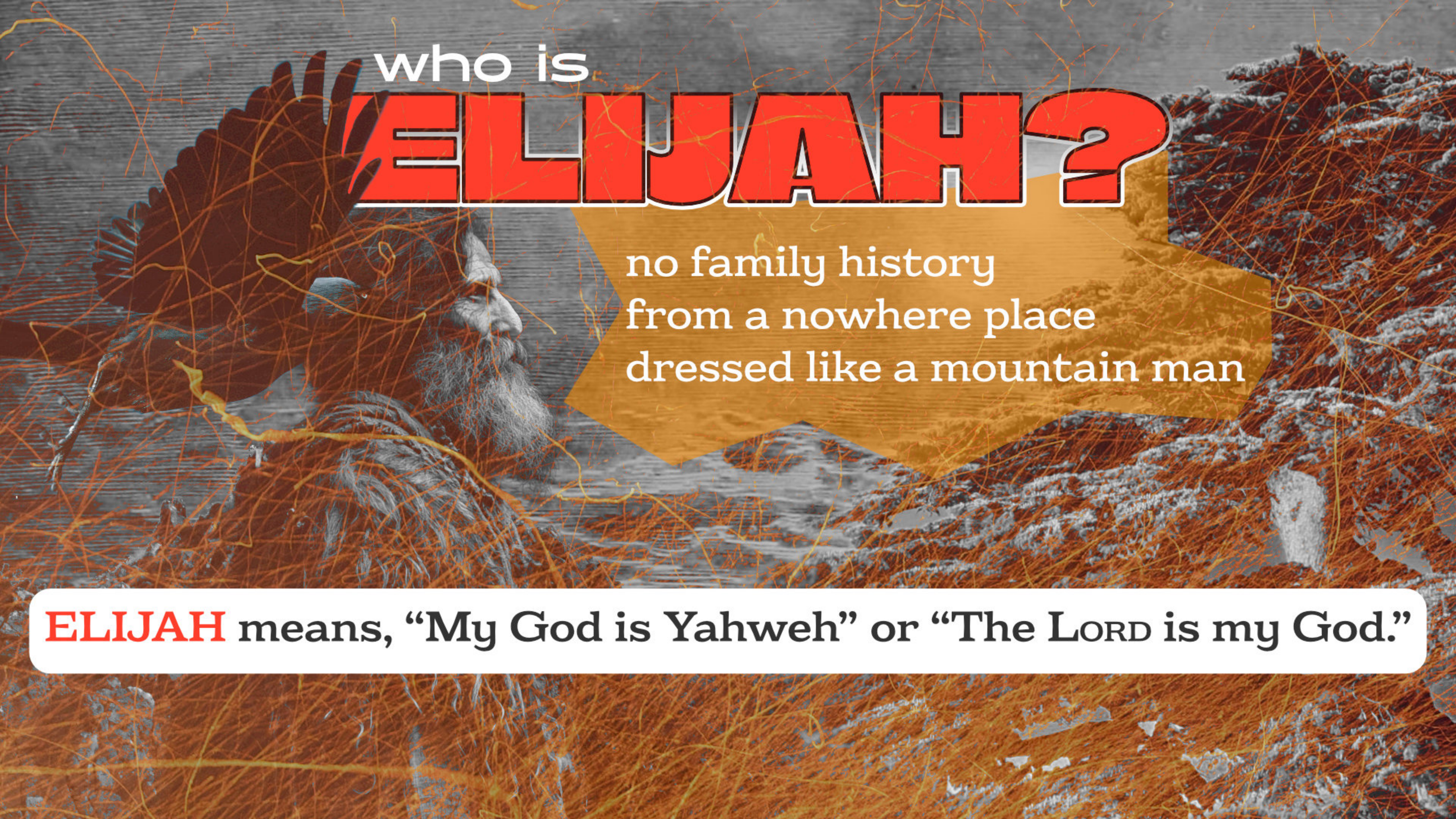
growing opposition to God



<sup>1</sup> Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

# 1 KINGS 17





who is

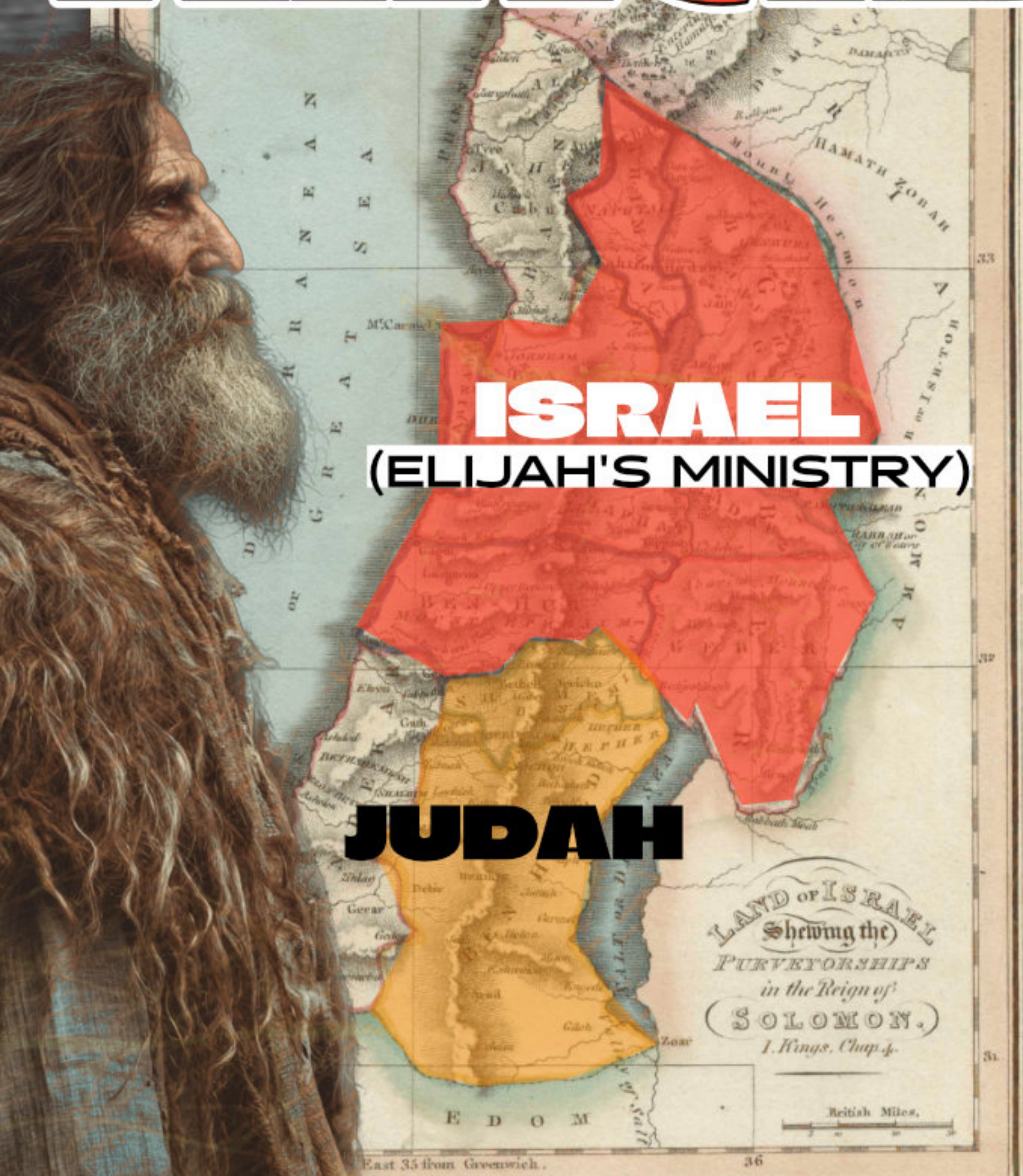
# ELIJAH?

no family history  
from a nowhere place  
dressed like a mountain man

**ELIJAH** means, “My God is Yahweh” or “The LORD is my God.”



# the **DIVIDED KINGDOM**



For 120 years, Israel was one United Kingdom under Saul, David, and Solomon.

After Solomon's reign, the nation divided:

**Northern Kingdom: Israel: 10 tribes**

**Southern Kingdom: Judah: 2 tribes**

The Northern Kingdom is a nation marked by a succession of wicked kings who turned the people away from God.





Together they promoted idolatry  
(worship of Baal) throughout the  
nation, persecuted God's prophets,  
and led the northern nation of  
Israel farther and farther away  
from the Lord.

# KING AHAHAB QUEEN JEZEBEL

(wicked and corrupt)





the announcement of

# **NO RAIN**

**JUDGEMENT**

for breaking the covenant

**CHALLENGE**

Baal was considered the god of rain

**setting the stage for the showdown in chapter 18**



<sup>2</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: <sup>3</sup> “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. <sup>4</sup> You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”

# 1 KINGS 17







# Why would God tell Elijah to leave and hide?

God's judgment  
God's protection  
God's provision



<sup>5</sup> So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. <sup>6</sup> The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

# 1 KINGS 17





# GOD WORKS THROUGH **AVAILABLE PEOPLE**

(those who are willing and obedient)



many of us disqualify ourselves

"I don't know enough."

"My faith isn't strong enough."

"I don't have the right spiritual gifts."

"I don't think God can really use me because of my past."

God isn't asking you to be where someone else is.

**He's asking you to trust Him and  
take your next step of obedience.**



# GOD WORKS THROUGH THOSE WHO ARE **DEPENDENT ON HIM**

Day after day, God reminds Elijah  
to be dependent on Him

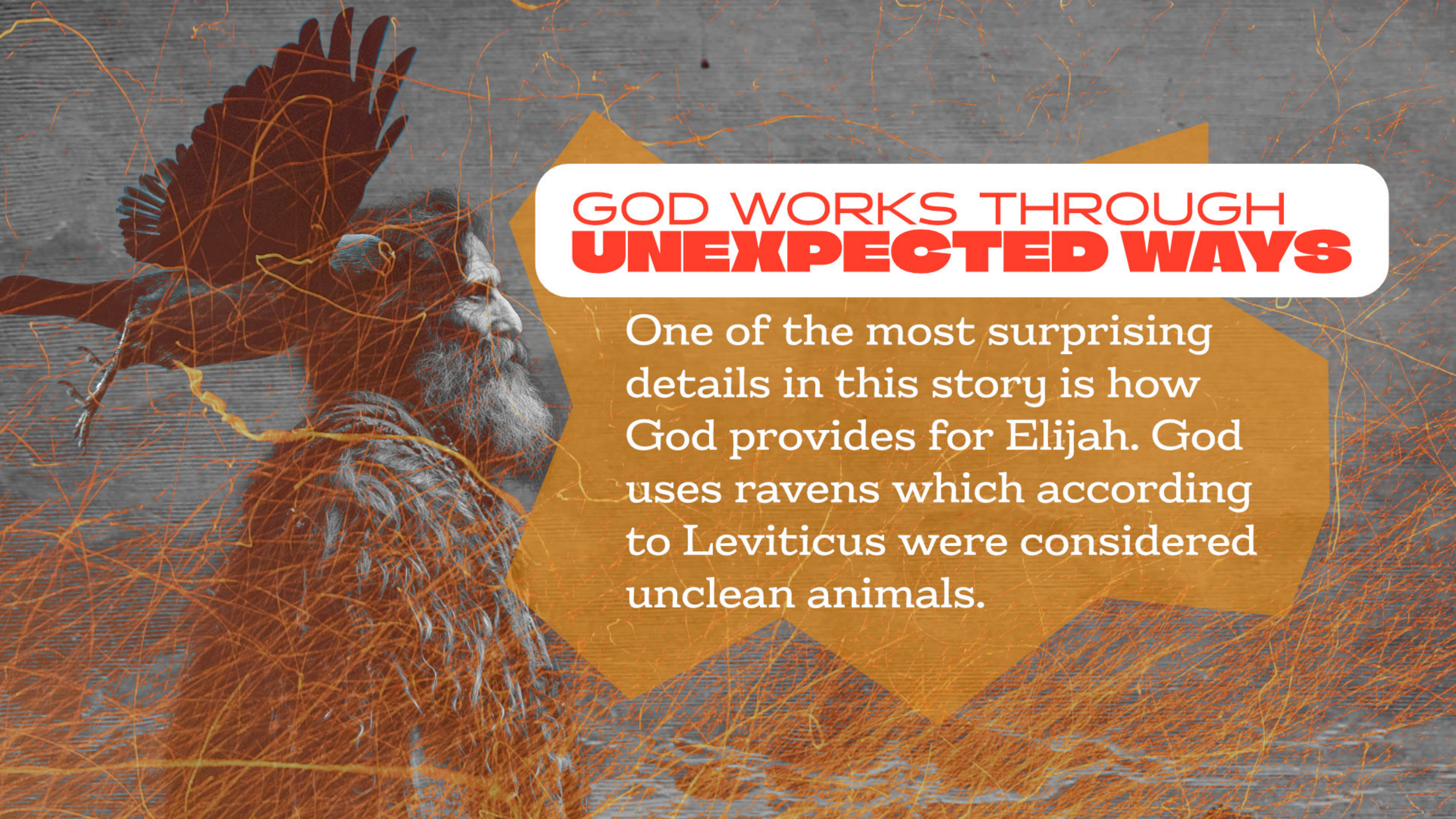


# RECEIVE TODAY'S GRACE FOR TODAY'S CHALLENGES

**God promises to provide what we need  
for the moment we are facing**

**temptation   anxiety   grief   overwhelm   uncertainty**





## GOD WORKS THROUGH **UNEXPECTED WAYS**

One of the most surprising details in this story is how God provides for Elijah. God uses ravens which according to Leviticus were considered unclean animals.



How has God  
grown your faith through  
unexpected people or  
unexpected circumstances?

**The person or circumstance  
you would never have chosen  
may be the very thing God uses  
to deepen your faith and  
prepare you for what's next.**



Because

**"THE LORD IS OUR GOD,"**

we are able to make ourselves  
available to Him

God delights to work through people  
who are available, obedient, and dependent  
on Him to accomplish His purposes.