

9. With our Lord riding point we follow Him by the application His Word. The widow has come around to Elijah's way of thinking. She was formally a follower of Baal, now she has finally seen the light that the prophet represents the God of Israel.
10. Here are some comparisons among the three personalities in the widow's house and those engaged in the present unpleasantness:
 1. It may be accurately stated that among the general population of the United States are those the 1 Kings 17 passage may be compared with the worshipers of Baal.
 2. The leadership of the Northern Kingdom, over the course of its first seven monarchs, is typical of that found among many of the senators, representatives, governors, and mayors of several states presently engaged in rebellion against the Constitution, the rule of law, and their constituents' lives and property.
 3. The widow was previously involved in the Baal cult, but due to the teaching ministry of Elijah and the miraculous resurrection of her child, she went positive to Word of God.
 4. The prevailing drought throughout the Levant has its equivalent in the release of the Chinese virus into the United States.
 5. The gradual decline of the nation's loss of doctrinal thought had to be allowed on a nationwide basis so that no one could avoid its specter.
 6. The virus had to be so prevalent that no one could avoid its potential impact.
 7. The Dark Side countered by politicizing the plague in order to capitalize on its universal impact.
 8. Intervening was a second wave of chaos led by two terrorist organizations that wrought chaos, primarily among the jurisdictions that had turned the virus into a political weapon.
 9. The virus and the terrorists executed a double envelopment that shut down the population's freedom of speech and freedom of movement.
 10. Open season was and remains focused on maximum restraint on law enforcement with the objective of its removal from the streets of the nation in favor of modern-day Brownshirts, a noun translated from German *Sturmabteilung* (shrörm äp tī löng).



This is a German noun that means storm section. A private army of bullies, known as *storm troopers* or *Brownshirts*, assembled by Adolf Hitler about 1923 which after 1934 was covertly reorganized as a national militia. Abbreviated S.A.¹

12. Should the terrorists-supporting political party win the election, then this type of “police force” could quickly emerge.
13. Therefore, the three personalities in 1 Kings 17 are illustrations of those that have potential impact on the positive outcome of the current rebellion in the United States.
14. First of all, Elijah is a forerunner of Isaiah’s messianic prophecy in Isaiah 40:3, “Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness; make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.”
15. Who is the Elijah personality politically trying to “clear the way for our Lord to make smooth in the desert a highway for our Lord”? President Trump. Politically, he is the only person who stands in the way of impending tyranny.
16. Who symbolizes the widow that provides the biblical inventory necessary for the Lord to “make smooth in the desert” in this hour of discontent?
17. Believers who have invested decades of Bible study to facilitate the power of the Word of God in their souls and thus are prepared to stand fast behind the FLOT Line in the present hour!
18. Who does the resurrected son of the widow symbolize as the One who controls history on behalf of the Pivot? None other than our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
19. The narrative of events that take place at the widow’s home are suspended at the end of the seventeenth chapter. When chapter 18 opens the timing is near the end of the three and one-half-year drought.
20. Chapter 18 opens with the Lord giving Elijah orders to leave Zarephath, go down to Samaria, and meet with King Ahab and give him a head’s up on the drought:

¹ Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d ed. (1953), “Sturmabteilung.”



1 Kings 18:1 Now it happened after many days [almost 3½ years] that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year saying, “Go! Show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth.”

1. This chapter covers 46 verses broken down into five paragraphs. It reveals one or more Jews who have failed the tests imposed by the drought:
 1. 1 Kings 18:1–16, the failure of Obadiah, who was in effect the chief of staff of the Northern Kingdom under Ahab.² In the tripartite government of the United States such a position is in the executive branch and currently held by Mark Meadows.
 2. 1 Kings 18:17–20, the failure of Ahab as chief executive of the Northern Kingdom.
 3. 1 Kings 18:21–24, the failure of the people by their continued allegiance to Baal.
 4. 1 Kings 18:25–40, the failure of the prophets in their continued worship of Baal.
 5. 1 Kings 18:41–46, the failure of Ahab as king to orient to doctrine and instead submitted to the schemes of his murderous wife, Jezebel.
2. It has been almost 3½ years since Elijah confronted Ahab in 1 Kings 17:1 informing him of the Lord’s prophesy of a drought. Much has changed in Elijah’s spiritual life from that day to the present hour in 1 Kings 18:1.
3. For 3½ years, Elijah has been growing in grace. The drought is about to be broken. The Lord is ordering him to leave Zárezphath, go to Samaria, and inform Ahab that the drought is almost over.
4. During the interim between the prophet’s two meetings with Ahab, Elijah has built up an advanced inventory of doctrinal principles and is now prepared to confront the king.
5. The Lord issues two imperative moods to Elijah in verse 1. The first is the Qal active imperative of the verb, הָלַךְ (*halach*): “Go now!” This is followed by the Niph‘il imperative of רָאָה (*ra’ah*): “confront” Ahab!
6. For 3½ years, Elijah has experienced continued spiritual growth. He has been guided by God about where to go, how long to stay there, and what to do in the process.

² John Richard Sampey, “Obadiah,” in *The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia*, gen. ed. James Orr (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1956), 3:2173.



7. He has been able to guide the widow in her spiritual growth and even be the conduit through whom God resurrected the woman's previously dead son back to life.
8. He has been the recipient of the divine provision of logistical grace support at Cherith from ravens and the arroyo. At Zárezphath, he became the divine conduit through whom the widow's son was resurrected.
9. This miracle was the primary event that enabled the widow to buy-in to the veracity and omnipotence of the God of Israel which served to separate her from her previous involvement in the worship of Baal and the guilt complex she developed from that previous association.
10. Now Elijah is ready for the showdown with Ahab. The "word of the Lord" commands him to, "Go now and confront Ahab!"
11. These commands are followed by the news that He "will send rain on the face of the earth."

1 Kings 18:2 So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe [חָזָק (*chazaq*): "Inflicting discomfort or pain hard to endure; afflictive; extreme"³] in Samaria.

1. There has not been one drop of rain in the Levant for 3½ years. The impact on the region has surely been severe. The dictionary cited above provides some synonyms. Here are some others: "intense, harsh, arduous, punishing, devastating, uncompromising, unrelenting, merciless, oppressive, and unmitigated."⁴
2. This prolonged weather system caused tremendous impact on all things living for both man and beast. The trip from Zárezphath to Samaria on foot was a trek of about 80 miles. Along the way Elijah saw the devastation that had occurred over the course of 3½ years.
3. Carcasses and bones of both man and beasts were strewn along the way, dried grasses and leafless trees giving testimony to the devastating impact the drought had imposed upon the area.
4. As Elijah makes his way south toward the capital, Ahab makes his first appearance in this saga since Elijah had his audience with the king back in 1 Kings 17:1.
5. Ahab identifies Obadiah as the person "over his household" which we classified earlier as being Ahab's chief of staff:

³ Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d ed. (1953), "severe."

⁴ Oxford American Writer's Thesaurus, 3d ed., comp. Christine A. Lindberg (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), s.v. "severe."



1 Kings 18:3 Ahab called Obadiah who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly;

v. 4 for when Jezebel destroyed the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water.)

1. This information is contained as a commentary on what retrospectively Jezebel is reported of having done in:

1 Kings 18:13 “Has it not been told by my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, that I hid a hundred prophets of the Lord by fifties in a cave and provided them with bread and water.”

2. Obadiah is a believer but one who has minimal doctrine. He does comprehend that Ahab is a tyrant but does not have enough doctrine to give the man proper leadership advice. Ahab had promoted Obadiah beyond his capabilities.
3. Obadiah does believe in the Lord, but he does not have the doctrine to isolate himself from a tyrannical king and a worshipper of Baal.
4. The nation’s current crisis includes a severe shortage of water to grow the grass to keep horses and mules alive. The plan was for Ahab to go in one direction and Obadiah to go in the opposite.
5. Since we learn in 1 Kings 18:7 that Obadiah encountered Elijah coming towards him means that he was headed north meeting Elijah coming south toward Samaria.

1 Kings 18:7 Now as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him, and he recognized him and fell on his face and said, “Is this you, Elijah my master?”

v. 8 He said to him, “It is I. Go, say to your master, ‘Behold, Elijah is here.’”

6. It has been 3½ years since Elijah last spoke to Ahab. The message he wants Obadiah to deliver is, “I’m back!” His spiritual growth has become so advanced that he is confident he is God’s man for the crisis.
7. The man for the crisis in the plan of God is not necessarily one who is well-known, but the one who has maximum doctrine in his soul. Elijah has absolute confidence in its power to guide him through this critical situation absent any fear or dread.

