

# calvary chapel

portsmouth



## 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Kings

*Simply teaching the Word simply*

*1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.*

*2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.*

**1 Kings 19:1-2**

*3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.*

*4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.*

**1 Kings 19:3-4**

- He travels c.130 miles south
- Discouragement is real danger following ministry!
  - cf the Prophet who spoke to Jeroboam

# Conscientious Introspection before God

*... he arose, and went for his life. (1 Kings 19:3)*

- Elijah did an actually cowardly thing, yet he was not a coward. He ran away because he was absolutely baffled, he could not understand what God was doing. We cannot judge men by what they actually do, because the reasons of two men who do the same thing may be entirely different. Another man might have run away because he was a craven coward. Elijah fled because it seemed as if he had been let down by God in everything in which he had stood for Him.*

# Conscientious Introspection before God

*... he arose, and went for his life. (1 Kings 19:3)*

- *“Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou indeed be unto me as a deceitful brook, as waters that fail?” (Jeremiah 15:18 rv). This sense of being baffled knocks everything out; a man is like a sparrow in a gale. It is not a question of losing his wits, but of realising that he has none. The battle in spiritual life is, on whom or on what am I building my confidence?*

- Oswald Chambers

*5 And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.*

*6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.*

**1 Kings 19:5-6**

*7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.*

*8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.*

**1 Kings 19:7-8**

# Horeb (aka Mt Sinai)

- The mountain where God appeared to Moses at the burning bush Ex 3:1-2
- Here God revealed Himself as the I AM
- It was to this mountain Moses led the Children of Israel after Egypt
- Here God gave the Law to Moses
- Here God now meets with Elijah
- Later this would be the place the Apostle Paul would spend some time here after his conversion

# Mt Sinai



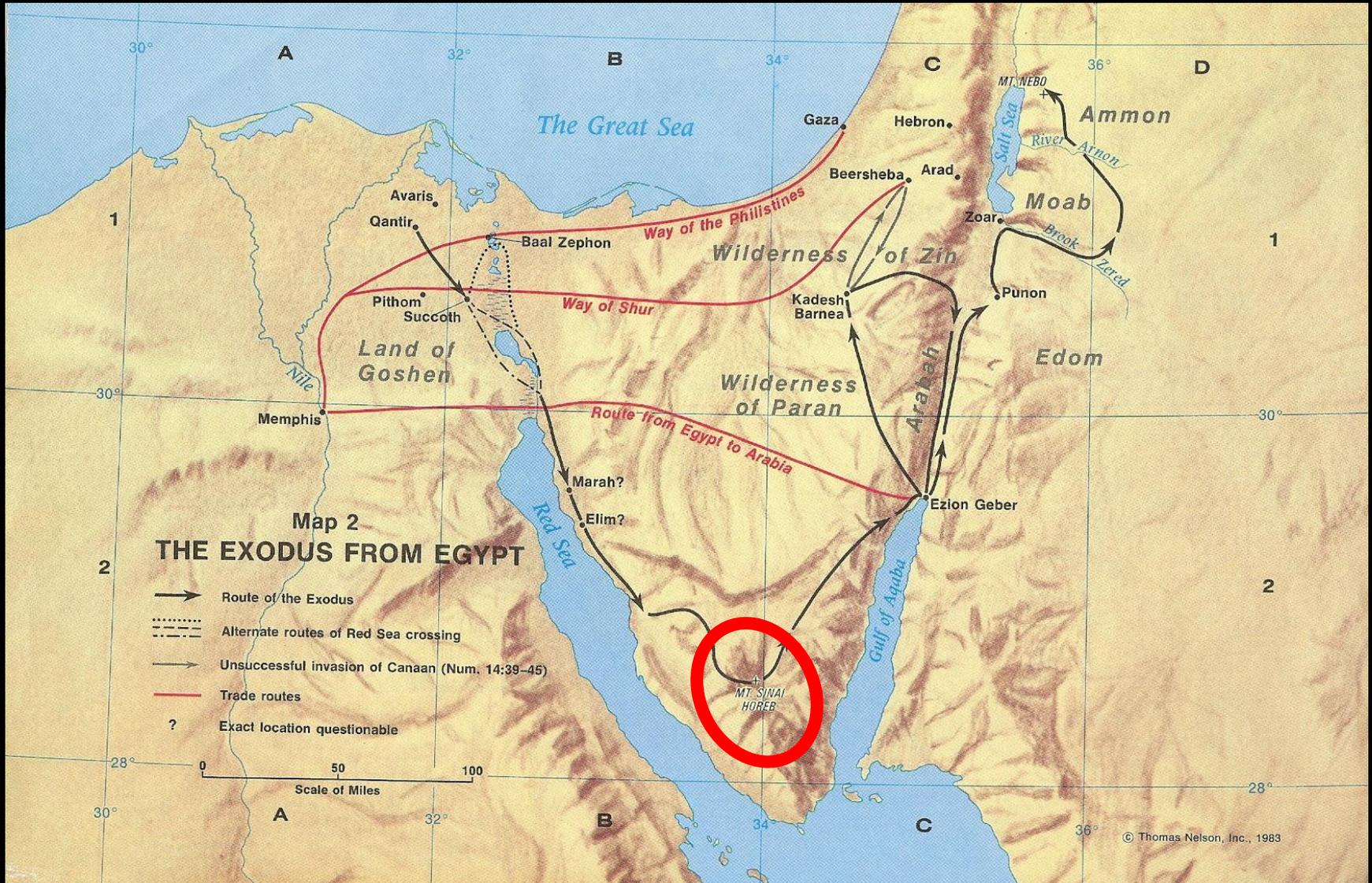
# Mt Sinai



# Mt Sinai



# The Tradition



# The Tradition

- Many Problems:
- No archeological evidence
- No geographical evidence
- Forces crossing the sea to a paddle
- Northern Sinai had an Egyptian military presence
- 'Sinai' was still 'in Egypt'
- *What does the Bible say?*

# Mt Sinai – In Arabia

*I Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.*

**Exodus 3:1**

# Mt Sinai – In Arabia

<sup>12</sup> And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon **this mountain.**

Exodus 3:12

# Mt Sinai – In Arabia

<sup>25</sup> ...For this Hagar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

**Galatians 4:25**

# Mt Sinai



# Israel's Camp before Mt Sinai

- Evidence of Dwelling Structures



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# Water in the Wilderness?



# Altar of Moses



# Altar of Moses

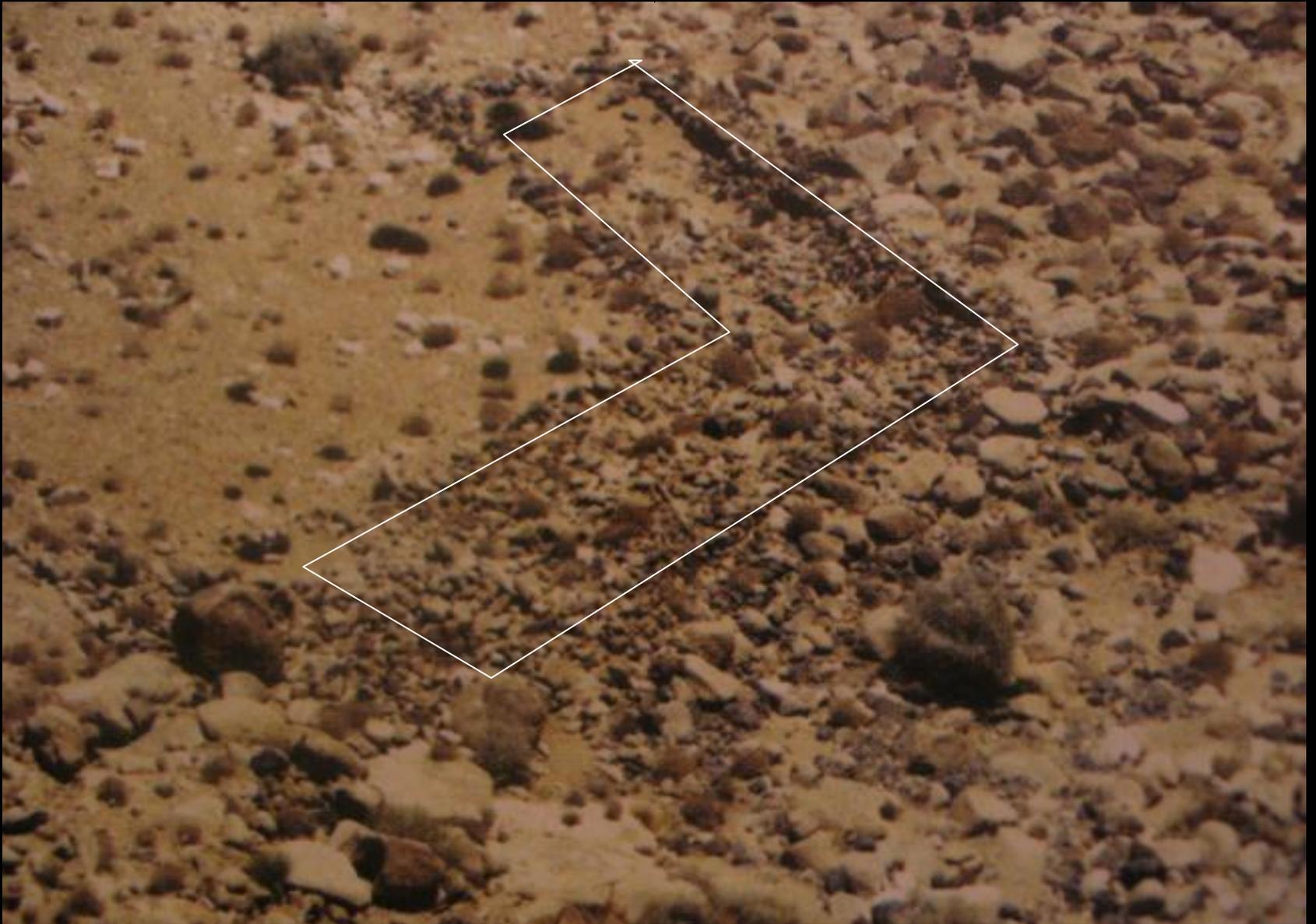


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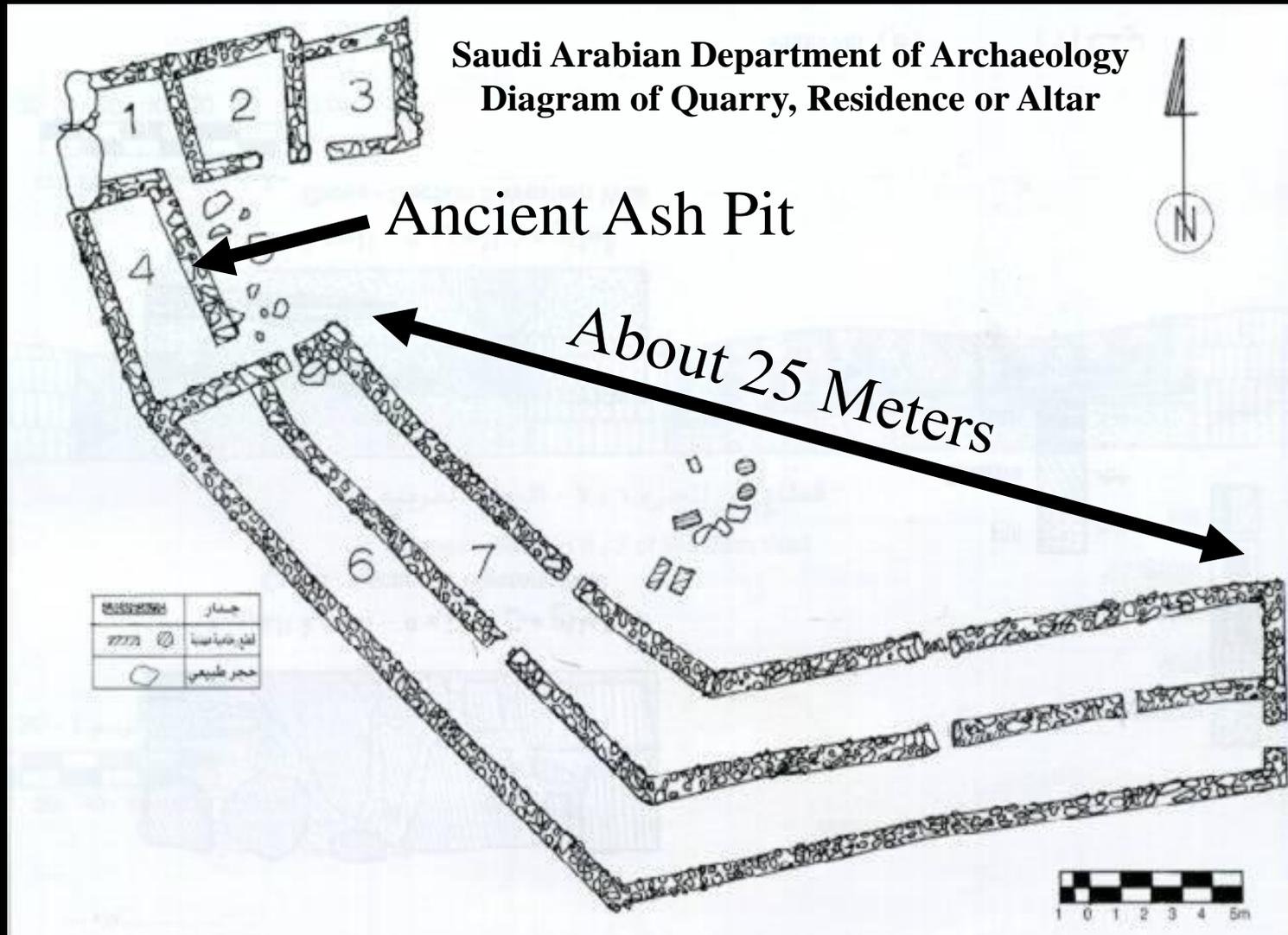
# Altar of Moses



# Altar of Moses



# Altar of Moses



# Alter & 12 Pillars

4 And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.

Exodus 24:4

# 12 Pillars?



# 12 Pillars?



# Altar of the Golden Calf



195 ft

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# Altar of the Golden Calf



# Altar of the Golden Calf



# Altar of the Golden Calf

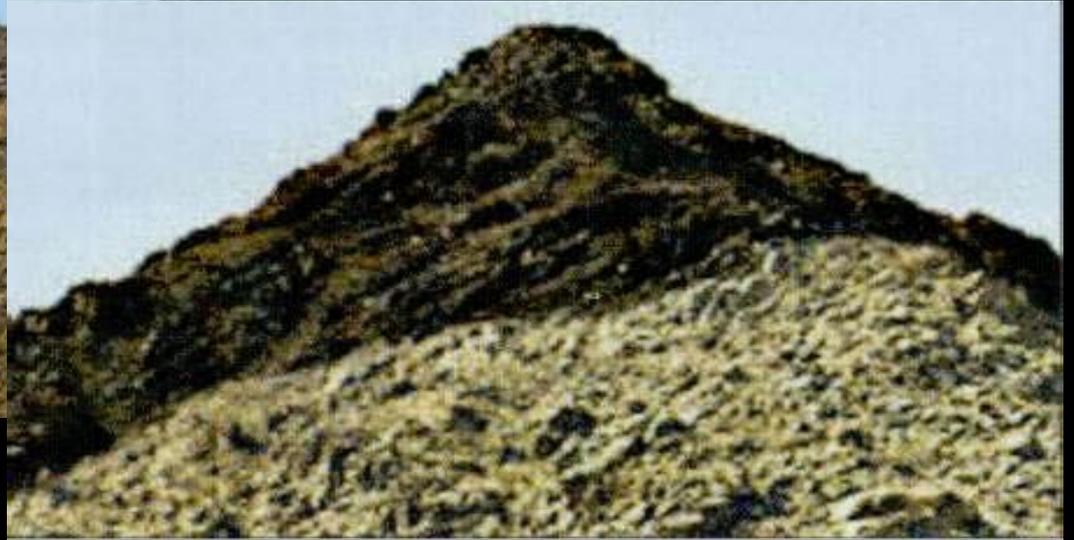


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# Altar of the Golden Calf



# Mt Sinai



*“And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly” (Ex 19:18)*

# Hebrew Art?



# The Lampstand



# Rough Sketch?



*“And thou shalt make a lampstand of pure gold: of beaten work shall the lampstand be made... And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side... And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount” (Ex 25:31-40)*

*9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?*

*10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.*

**1 Kings 19:9-10**

- Elijah answers as if he is on trial!
- He thinks he is the only prophet left

**11** And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:  
**12** And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

**1 Kings 19:11-12**

**13** And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

**14** And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

**1 Kings 19:13-14**

- When God asks a question it is not because He needs some information!

# Think Back to Where You Began

- God challenges Elijah to think back to where he began
- He had been very jealous for the LORD
- Now he had come to the end of himself
  - His natural enthusiasm had faded
- Are you willing to complete that which you started?

# Completing The Work

*26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.*

*27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.*

*28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?*

**Luke 14:26-33**

# Completing The Work

*29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,*

*30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.*

*31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?*

**Luke 14:26-33**

# Completing The Work

*32 Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.*

*33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.*

**Luke 14:26-33**

# Completing The Work

<sup>1</sup> Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Hebrews 12:1-3**

# Completing The Work

*3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.*

**Hebrews 12:1-3**

- Jesus did not give up on you!
- He now declares your name before the Father!

# Completing The Work

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

**Galatians 6:9**

**15** And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

**16** And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

**17** And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

**1 Kings 19:15-17**

<sup>18</sup> Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

1 Kings 19:18

- *“I’m pleased you were very jealous...”*
- *“But I’ve been in control all along!”*

**19** So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.

**20** And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again: for what have I done to thee?

**1 Kings 19:19-20**

<sup>21</sup> And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

1 Kings 19:21

- **John 13:15-16**
- *“For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.”*

# Consciousness of Instruction by God

- *The angel did not give Elijah a vision, or explain the Scriptures to him, or do anything remarkable; he told Elijah to do the most ordinary thing, viz., “Arise and eat.” The ministrations of God come over and over again in the most commonplace manner possible. We look for some great big alteration, something marvellous like the wind, or an earthquake, or fire; and the voice of God tells us to do what the most ordinary voice we know might tell us to do.*

# Consciousness of Instruction by God

- *“And after the fire a still small voice”—i.e., “a sound of gentle stillness” (rv mg)—the one thing the Lord was in. Then came the command—“Go, return. . . .” God sent Elijah right back, after giving him an extraordinary heartening, to do what He had told him. The haphazard may tumble about as it likes now; Elijah has learned that God’s order comes that way.*

- Oswald Chambers



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