

SERMON NOTES

Title: *The Positive Power of Conviction*

Text: I Kings 19:9b & 10

Topic: Comfort/Restoration

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 3/22/26

File Under: Christian Living



At the pinnacle of **success**, the enemy struck his blow.

“It is harder to deal with success than failure” Billy Graham.

In Spiritual Warfare there are no **“once and for all”** battles.

In discouragement Elijah prayed, *“Take my life Lord...”* I Kings 19:4

Notice how God responds.

NO CONDEMNATION

“God’s kindness leads you toward repentance.” Romans 2:4.

Condemnation would only enlarge the already heavy load of guilt and drive us further from God.

God instead sends an angel to give him **hot bread and fresh water**.

THE PLACE OF CONVICTION

Elijah uses the added strength to **keep on running**.

God knows exactly where we’re headed when we run and he sometimes even **helps us get there...**

...showing us his love as he leads us **unknowingly** to a place of conviction.

God doesn’t point out Elijah’s **faulty recollection** instead God says, *“Elijah, look at me”*. (I Kings 19:9b&10)

GOD’S GENTLE WHISPER

“Go out and stand on the mountain, in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by” v. 11 There came a powerful wind, earthquake, and fire... but the Lord **was not** in the wind, earthquake and fire.

After the fire, there came a **gentle whisper**. *“Elijah, what are you doing here?”*

God didn’t comment on Elijah’s **twisted** view of things, instead God begins to give **positive direction**.

THE PATH BACK TO GOD

“Go back the way you came.” I Kings 19:15. In giving Elijah instructions to anoint Hazael, Jehu, and Elisha, God was telling Elijah to **get back to work**.

“Elijah was a man just like us” James 5:17

The positive power of conviction forms a bridge from our **weakness** to God’s strength.