

## “Standing on The Promises”

C.R. 7-8-18

**Text:** 1 Kings 18: 41-46

**Intro:** Many of us no doubt love to hear about the promises of scripture. We love to hear songs and sermons on the promises of God, and the fact that God always keeps his promises, and He does. One of the great Hymns we sing is “Standing on the Promises”. (Quote some of it). Let’s take a closer look at a man who could tell us a thing or two about the promises of God, and how we should look and believe.

### 1) Elijah’s Past Promises

- a. One things that proves to be beneficial is to look back and see whether God has ever failed to keep a promise.
- b. Elijah had proof to pull from in his life. The Brook Cherith, The Widow lady, the event that took place on Mt. Carmel etc...
- c. Good to keep in mind the two different kind of promises that we find in the Bible.
- d. There are the **Unconditional promises**. These are the promises that are not conditioned on anything we do. Jesus said, “I will come again”, Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away”.
- e. There are also **Conditional Promises**. They most often say “If, and Then”.
- f. Within these promises God is saying you do your part, and I will do mine. Conditioned.
- g. With Unconditional Promises He is going to do it no matter what we do.
- h. We must be careful how we interpret these promises as well.
- i. **Mark 16:18** They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
- j. How do you feel about this one? We will be happy to watch.
- k. We must not ignore the context and overlook the possibility that certain promises were given to one specific person for one particular reason.
- l. **Mat 21:22** And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.
- m. But you can’t ignore **Psalm 66:1** “ If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: “

### 2) Elijah’s Present Promise

- a. Look at **Chapter 18 verse 1**.
- b. Notice this is a Conditional Promise.
- c. Its personal to Elijah for a very specific time.
- d. God has proven to the King that He alone is God, and the victory was evident on Mt. Carmel.
- e. **Look at v.41**. I don’t believe at this point that there was a cloud in the sky.
- f. Elijah heard rain before there was even a cloud, because he knew that his God kept his promises.

- g. In fact the word “sound” here is translated “voice”, or the sound of a voice.
- h. Illustrate: We sit around and talk about our Lord’s return a lot because we believe His word.
- i. We talk about Heaven because it is real, and it is a promise of God.

### 3) Elijah’s Prayer

- a. **Separated Himself**. To the top of Mt. Carmel. (we need a place of prayer)
- b. **Humbled Himself**. Check out his posture on the mountain
- c. **He was Specific**. Praying for Rain. Be specific with God. Tell him what you need.
- d. **He was Persistent**. **Note v.43**. 7 times (sometimes it takes years).
- e. **He was Expectant**. It only took one tiny cloud to convince Him. He knew what God had said.
- f. Nothing as wonderful as watching God fulfill His word.
- g. Talk about the whole even unfolding. Ahab, you better put your mud tires on that chariot. Its about to rain.
- h. **Notice v. 45** “there was great rain”.
- i. Talk about standing on Mt. Carmel and overlooking that valley.
- j. **Verse 46**. Talk about him outrunning the chariot.
- k. Not only can we stand on the Promises, but we can run on the promises.