

And he said, I've been very faithful to you. I've been following your faithfully and the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant, th~~o~~w~~o~~wn down your altar, forsaken your covenant and I even I only am left and they seek my life to take it away. And the Lord gave a great windstorm and earthquake to give Elijah evidence of God's tremendous power over nature. If God had a task for Elijah to do in carrying on the work that he started so wonderfully in the land of Israel, he had no business down there in Sinai scared of his life. So God wanted to reassure him by giving him these tremendous evidences of God's power over nature.

Then we read God was not in the earthquake, God was not in the wind, God was not in the fire. Then there came a still small voice. God was not in these. God caused these; God produced these to show His great power. Then God spoke to Elijah and said, What are you doing here? And he repeated his pesimistic statement. And the Lord's answer to the pesimèstic statement was implying he had just seen God's power over nature, now God says, Not only am I in complete control over nature but I control the destnies of nations. So he said, I'm going to make a change in nations. I'm going to take this dynasty to Syria that has been ruling father after son(son after father) for quite a shile; Im going to erradicate this dynasty and I'm going to take an unknown man Hazael whom the Assyrian records speak of as Hazael son of a nobody; I'm going to take him and I'm going to make him king of Syria, but the way he said it was, You go and anoint Hazael king of Syria. Now suppose somebody were to say to me, You go and give the oath of office to Senator Goldwater to make him president of the U.S.A. What do you think I would do? I would say, What a foolish, silly thing to say to me! Well, if you take this as a command it was equally silly to say to Elijah, You this man fleeing from Jezebel, Go up there to Syria, a country stronger and greater than Israel, and take a son of