♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, August 4, 2013

"DEFINING MOMENTS"

(1 Kings 18:17-40)

There are routine days when life is fairly simple and not particularly demanding. Relationship to God doesn't require much extra from us. Then, there are those other days. There are days that come to us as defining moments when we must decide what we really believe about God and how we are going to live with Him and for Him. Elijah had such days. May today be such a day for us.

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:1-2, ESV).

"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21, NASB).

"Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years" (James 5:17, NLT).

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, NIV).

"Jesus replied, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'" (John 14:6, NIV).

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, NIV).

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"Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years" (James 5:17, NLT).

"As they were walking along and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire appeared, drawn by horses of fire. It drove between the two men, separating them, and Elijah was carried by a whirlwind into heaven" (2 Kings 2:11, NLT).

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"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, NIV).

"Call a little louder—he is a god, after all. Maybe he's off meditating somewhere or other, or maybe he's gotten involved in a project, or maybe he's on vacation. You don't suppose he's overslept, do you, and needs to be waked up?" (1 Kings 18:27, The Message).