



“I Have A Problem”

1 Kings 19:1-21

INTRODUCTION: *A problem with skunks . . .*

I. THE PROPHET ELIJAH HAD A BIG PROBLEM

- A. This is seen in 1 Kings 18
- B. It started with an amazing contest on Mt. Carmel
- C. After a great victory, he had to run for his life

II. ELIJAH’S FOUR MISTAKES IN PROBLEM SOLVING

- A. He ran before he prayed (1 Kings 19:3) . . .
compare – 2 Kings 19:14
- B. He evaluated before he slept (vv. 4, 10, 18)
- C. He asked for a change of circumstances instead of a change of character . . . **compare – 2 Corinthians 12:7-10**
- D. He focused on the problem & not on the source of his strength (v. 9) . . . **compare – Hebrews 11:27**

III. GOD RESPONDED TO ELIJAH’S PROBLEM

- A. He ministered to the immediate need (1 Kings 19:5-8)
- B. He listened to Elijah’s complaint (vv. 10 & 14)
- C. He revealed Himself as a loving God (vv. 9 & 13)

IV. HOW WOULD GOD HAVE US HANDLE LIFE’S PROBLEMS?

- A. As a first step, commit the problem to the LORD in prayer
- B. Make sure we are at our best mentally & physically before making major decisions
- C. Ask God to change us (& not just the circumstances)
- D. Remember that the solution to all problems lies in **God’s** power, not in mine (Psalm 89:13)

CONCLUSION: *“My Father’s arms are strong as trucks”*