

~OBADIAH 4 (87)

(O-ba-di'ah) [Servant of Yehowah]

- The household steward of King Ahab. Even though King Ahab and Jezebel practiced wickedness, **Obadiah** greatly feared Yehowah, hiding 100 prophets of Yehowah, by fifties in a cave, when Jezebel had ordered them all slaughtered.
- During the divinely imposed drought foretold by Elijah, **Obadiah's** master Ahab divided certain territory with him, and each was searching for grass to feed the livestock when Elijah met up with **Obadiah**. Elijah had not been seen by Ahab during the drought, a period of some three years.
- Upon being told to inform Ahab that Elijah had returned, **Obadiah**, out of great fear, hesitated to go until given assurance that the prophet would not leave, for Ahab would surely kill his servant if this report proved false.
- And it came about after many days that Yehowah's own word came to Elijah in the third year, saying; Go, show yourself to Ahab, as I am determined to give rain upon the surface of the ground. (1 Kings 18:1)
- Accordingly Elijah went to show himself to Ahab, while the famine was severe in Samaria. (1 Kings 18:2)
- Meantime, Ahab called **Obadiah**, who was over the household. Now **Obadiah** himself had proved to be one greatly fearing Yehowah. (1 Kings 18:3)
- Hence it came about that when Jezebel cut off Yehowah's prophets, **Obadiah** proceeded to take a hundred prophets and keep them hid by fifties in a cave, and he supplied them bread and water. (1 Kings 18:4)
- And Ahab went on to say to **Obadiah**; Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the torrent valleys. Perhaps we may find green grass, that we may preserve the horses and mules alive and may not have any more of the beasts cut off. (1 Kings 18:5)

- So they divided between themselves the land through which to pass. Ahab himself went alone by one way, and **Obadiah** himself went alone by another way. (**1 Kings 18:6**)
- As **Obadiah** continued on the way, why, there was Elijah to meet him. At once he recognized him and fell upon his face and said; Is this you, my lord Elijah? (**1 Kings 18:7**)
- At this he said to him; It is I. Go, say to your lord, Here is Elijah. (**1 Kings 18:8**)
- But he said; What sin have I committed that you should be putting your servant into the hand of Ahab to put me to death? (**1 Kings 18:9**)
- As Yehowah your God is living, there is not a nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent to look for you. After they had said; He is not here, he made the kingdom and the nation swear that they could not find you. (**1 Kings 18:10**)
- And now you are saying; Go, say to your Lord; Here is Elijah. (**1 Kings 18:11**)
- And it is bound to occur that, when I myself go from you, then the spirit of Yehowah itself will carry you away to where I shall not know, and I shall have come to tell Ahab, and he will not find you, and he will be bound to kill me, as your servant himself has feared Yehowah from his youth. (**1 Kings 18:12**)
- Has not my lord been told what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of Yehowah, how I kept some of the prophets of Yehowah hid, a hundred men by fifties in a cave, and kept supplying them bread and water? (**1 Kings 18:13**)
- And now you are saying; Go, say to your Lord; Here is Elijah. And he will be bound to kill me. (**1 Kings 18:14**)
- However, Elijah said; As Yehowah of armies before whom I do stand is living, today I shall show myself to him. (**1 Kings 18:15**)
- Accordingly **Obadiah** went off to meet Ahab and told him, and so Ahab went to meet Elijah. (**1 Kings 18:16**)