

## Elijah: Man of Prayer

### (1) Praying the hard option

*“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

*“Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly.” Jas 5:16-17*

#### **1. The times in which Elijah prayed this prayer**

- 1) Jeroboam and son (22+2 yrs)
- 2) Baasha and son (24+2 yrs)
- 3) Civil War: Zimri, Tibni, Omri
- 4) Omri and son (12+22 yrs)

#### **2. Elijah**

- 1) Out of the mainstream
- 2) His sense of the presence of God
- 3) Zealous for God

#### **3. Elijah's Response**

- 1) He studied the Bible
- 2) He prayed
- 3) He confronted God-less society

#### **4. Praying for God's Chastening?**

# PRAYING FOR RAIN

South east Qld, like the rest of south east Australia, has been going through its worst drought on record. In response, representatives from a mixed bag of churches met for prayer in November on the shores of one of our dams; also holding a rock concert to encourage lethargic Christians to get along. Then, in January, the aborigines had their turn, using their own religious powers. All this called forth the following interesting correspondence in the local paper:

## **Nation must clean up its act before rain will arrive** (*Northern Times* 26<sup>th</sup> Jan)

On November 25, Christian churches prayed for rain ... North Pine Dam is down to 19 per cent capacity.

On January 27, aborigines will try their tribal rain dance with mulga leaves and gypsum.

I don't think polluting our last few dregs will do one bit of good.

God will send the rain in His good time.

I believe that will be when He sees this nation on its knees repenting.

The churches need to repent, as there are more churches' preaching garbage than you can poke a stick at.

Our lying politicians definitely need to be on their knees.

This nation turns a blind eye to 100,000 abortions a year, then there is the legislation of homosexuality and prostitution.

Multiculturalism recognises false religions, and religious discrimination laws outlaw Christianity.

To top it off we have a so-called Mufti of Australia, and another Sheik, calling Jewish people "pigs" and calling for the blood of Jews and Christians.

If we are sincere about wanting rain we should examine our own lives and clean up our act nationally. Then God might listen.

Ed Pitt, Albany Creek

## **Spiteful and nasty God** (*Northern Times* 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb)

What a spiteful and nasty God Mr Pitt worships.

How can he even begin to justify how a God, who is supposedly compassionate, can allow the level of suffering that we see, not only here but elsewhere, and still be deserving of the slightest bit of respect.

I'm sure, if it had rained after the Christians' prayer session Mr Pitt would have been one of the first to claim that this was a sure sign of God's intervention.

I am appalled that Mr Pitt is using such a natural disaster as this drought as an excuse for his bigoted tirade.

Humans have a great capacity for care and compassion that has evolved with us as we have developed as a species.

It is sad that fanatical religious beliefs, like Mr Pitt's, try to undermine that compassion that we feel.

Marcus Toyne, Mango Hill