Earthquake of 1 Kings 19:11–12

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation about the "earthquake" of 1 Kings 19:11-12. I wanted to share some of the scriptures in this short article.

In 1 Kings 19:11-12, we read about four methods in which the Lord can communicate to His people on the earth. (We realize that He is not limited to these four methods.)

1 Kings 19:11-12—"Then He said, 'Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD.' And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice."

- Strong wind
- Earthquake
- Fire
- Still small voice

Today, we will focus on the earthquake.

Colorful descriptions

There are many verses in the Old Testament that discuss earthquakes. The following scriptures have been chosen for the colorful descriptions given as much as for any valuable lesson mentioned.

2 Samuel 22:8—"Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven quaked and were shaken, because He was angry."

Job 14:18—"But as a mountain falls and crumbles away, and as a rock is moved from its place."

Psalm 46:1-3—"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah."

Psalm 97:5—"The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

Psalm 114:4—"The mountains skipped like rams, the little hills like lambs."

Isaiah 24:19—"The earth is violently broken, the earth is split open, the earth is shaken exceedingly."

Jeremiah 23:29—" 'Is not My word like a fire?' says the LORD, 'and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?' "

Ezekiel 38:19-20—"For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: 'Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, 'so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.' "

New Testament history

Matthew 27:50-51—"And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split."

Matthew 27:54—"So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, 'Truly this was the Son of God!' "

New Testament prophecy

Revelation 11:13—"In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven."

Revelation 16:18—"And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth."