

Fire of 1 Kings 19:11–12

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Jan. 29, 2022.

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation about the "fire" 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 fire.

Fire for support

Let's look at an example where God used fire to support His servant.

1 Kings 18:36-38—"And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, 'LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again.' Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench."

Old Testament examples

- Genesis 19:24—Fire and brimstone
- Exodus 9:23-24—Hail and fire
- Ezekiel 22:20-22—Fire to melt

Here is a brief description about brimstone. It is an archaic term synonymous with sulfur. Some people call it a combustible form of sulfur. Some have said: "When sulfur burns, it produces sulfur dioxide, which turns into sulfuric acid"—meaning it can be deadly when breathed.

Cast into the fire

Following is a list of some scriptures in the New Testament that describe being thrown into a fire.

- Matthew 3:10-12
- Matthew 5:22
- Matthew 7:19
- Matthew 13:40-42
- Matthew 13:49-50
- Matthew 18:8-9
- Matthew 25:41
- John 15:6
- Revelation 14:9-11
- Revelation 19:20
- Revelation 20:10
- Revelation 20:14-15

- Revelation 21:8

Fire for cleansing

We began this article by giving an example in which God used fire to support His servant. Now I will conclude this article by showing another positive reference of fire—how God prepares for a new heaven and a new earth.

2 Peter 3:10-12—"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?"