Wrong: My goal is to raise obedient, Christian kids who will love the Lord and obey Him.

Right: My goal is to be a godly, consistent parent, teaching my children about the Lord as faithfully as I can.

Wrong: My goal is to have a successful career, provide for my family all the wonderful things of life I can.

Right: My goal is to be a faithful, industrious, respectful, doctrine-applying believer so that God is glorified in my career.

Wrong: My goal is to be happy and secure in my life as I see it.

Right: My goal is to grow spiritually and mature and do everything in my life to the glory of God.

Prov. 16:9, "A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps."

Prov. 20:24, "A man's steps are of the LORD; how then can a man understand his own way?"

Prov. 21:1, "The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

Prov. 21:2, "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the hearts."

"And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword."

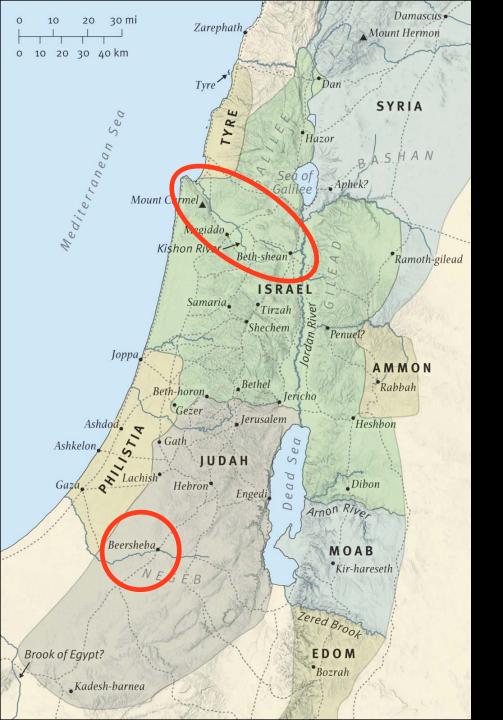
"Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.'

"And when he saw\* that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there."

\*Masoretic Text: "he saw"

LXX, Vulgate, Syriac, "he was afraid"

wayyare' vs wayyara'



#### Kingdoms of Israel and Judah

"But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, 'It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for | am no better than my fathers!" "



"Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, 'Arise and eat.'"





"Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water.

So he ate and drank, and lay down again."

"And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said, 'Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.'"

"So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God."



#### The Exodus from Egypt

"And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' "

"So he said, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

"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."

"and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice."

NASB: a sound of gentle blowing NET: there was a soft whisper ESV: the sound of a low whisper NIV: sound of a gentle whisper Literal: there was a sound of a small or thin [HALOT: calm, vibrant silence]

Ex. 34:6, "And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,

Ex. 34:7 "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

"So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave.

Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' "

#### The Incomprehensibility of God



But you musn't fret. After all, he is not a tame lion.

Lucy: But he is good.

#### The Incomprehensibility of God

Scripture emphasizes two things:

- 1. God is incomprehensible.
- 2. We can know God.

We cannot know God fully and exhaustively, but we can know God truly and accurately.

Job 11:7, "Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?

Job 11:8, "They are higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?"

Is. 40:17, "All nations before Him are as nothing, and they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless.

Is. 40:18, "To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?"

"And he said, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

"Then the LORD said to him: 'Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria.' "

"Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place."

"It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill."

"Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."