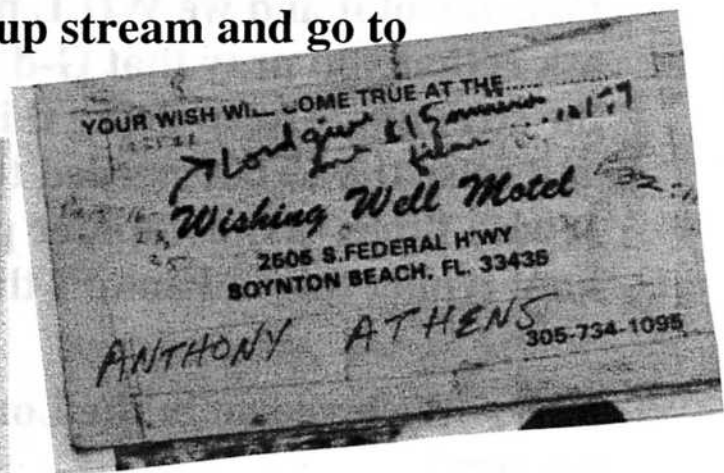


If you read 1Kgs 17 you see what a fearful thing the fear of the L-rd is. If the righteous can scarcely be saved, what will happen to the wicked? The whole nation had fallen away from G-d into idolatry, and there was no fear of G-d in that place, sort of like the world today. There were only 7000 preachers who hadn't caved in to the devil. Elijah felt like he was the only one that was left and he was so discouraged he wanted to die (1Kg 19:4). Ahab and Jezebel and their false prophets had worn him down. He felt like he was no better than his sinful ancestors. It's true he had received a word from the L-rd and the wrath of G-d was indeed going to burn against the land. There would be no rain. No water. No crops. Thirsty people. Thirsty animals. The people had an idol who was their "rain god." They were going to find out the hard way that this "rain god" called Baal was a false god that could not save them. Instead of getting RAIN from heaven, the false prophets were going to get FIRE and judgment and death. If you read chp 19 of 1Kgs you will see this and feel the pressure that King Ahab and Queen Jezebel were putting on Elijah. Elijah was a hunted prophet, with no one to feed and house him but the L-rd. First the ravens cater him his breakfast and dinner and he drinks potable water from a stream. Then as the drought worsens he has to flee from the dried up stream and go to

Zarephath.





All Elijah finds in Zarephath is a starving widow and her terminally ill son and a room that the L-rd supplies free of charge, like the Wishing Well Motel. Now if you were G-d and you were in the process of recovering an apostate people to Yourself, is THIS the way you would do it? I don't think so. Sometimes G-d's ways are so foreign to us that we can't begin to understand them. When the L-rd gave me this section of the bible (IKgs 17-19) on Labor Day weekend, 1978, and checked me into a motel with 23 cents in my pocket, He had in mind the high-traffic website we have today and my ipod sermon <http://www.afii.org/preaching/pgoble.mp3> heard by thousands of Jews weekly and the youtube.com thousands of viewings the Rabbi From Tarsus and the Bibles and the Yiddish and so much more, but all I saw was the 23 cents in my pocket and the L-rd's promises in the Bible and the certainty in my heart that He would somehow be strong in my weakness. Now I look at Linda with her ill health and it seems like we are back to Square One. Since 1978 one million dollars has come to this ministry but we didn't take any of it and we WILL not take any of it. All we ask is that you pray that G-d will heal her and give us the strength to keep doing this very very hard ministry and raise the \$9,000 needed to reprint the Orthodox Jewish Bible. My computer printer is broken again and I am typing this in Kinko's the day after Labor Day,

2007. We love you in the Lord and bless you for your prayers