

Caves of the Bible
1 Kings 19:9-18
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn from Bible events that took place in caves.

Intro: 1. Purposes of caves: protection, seeking enemies, & meditation (talking with God).

I. Caves of the Bible

- A. To Whom God spoke (place of solitude)
 - 1. Elijah (**1 Kings 19:9-18**)
 - 2. Moses (**Exodus 33:21-23**)
- B. Protection
 - 1. Lot fled to a cave (**Gen 19:30**)
 - 2. Engedi, where David spared Saul (**1 Sam 24:1-4**)
 - 3. The cave where Obadiah hid the prophets of God (**1 Kings 18:4**)
 - ii. The Bad
- C. The wicked hidden
 - 1. Makkedah – where 5 wicked kings were hidden (**Joshua 10:16-17**)

II. Where does the world go?

- A. What is their place of protection?
 - 1. How do friends offer protection from mental harm?
 - a. Counselors and Therapists whose standards are worldly.
 - 2. Friends can listen – this is good & comforting
 - i. Friends can be an encouragement during difficult times but only if their standard of right and wrong is based on God's word.
- B. What is their place of Solitude?
 - 1. A place of solitude surrounded by worldly friends?
 - i. A place of solitude surrounded by friends can be comforting but often times their solitude is short lived.
 - 2. Human friendships often look for another helpful source.
 - a. Make no mistake friends can be a great help – if they are the right friends.
 - i. You must keep in mind friends that pull you away from God or suggest ungodly advice are of no help.
 - 3. If you place or time of solitude is being alone, what do you do for encouragement and knowledge of how to handle situations?

III. Lessons for us today - Where do you go?

- A. The Christian can have the right place for protection.
 - 1. God spoke to Elijah during a time of fear. (**1 Kings 19:1-3**)
 - i. No doubt Elijah was hiding but God spoke to him to encourage him.
 - ii. When we speak to God through prayer we too will be encouraged.
 - 2. This place of protection and encouragement does not have to be a cave, it just have to

be you and God.

B. The Christian can have the right place for solitude

1. For some of us this may be a place surrounded by friends and/or brethren.
2. For some of us this may be a place or time when you are alone.
3. Whatever the place or time it should be used for improvement.

C. Used for good or bad

1. We are reminded that some things can be used for good or for bad.
2. Evil kings were hidden in caves, the same idea Obadiah had for the 150 prophets of God that he hid.
 - i. Caves were used for good and evil.
 - ii. Knowledge of God can be used in the same way.
 - a. Knowing what the Bible says but communicating it in a hateful or arrogant way will only PUSH PEOPLE AWAY!

Application & Conclusion:

1. What is your place for protection?
2. What about your place or time of solitude?
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9