

Self-Pity

1. Elijah yielded to self-pity for a time and fled to Horeb. 1 Kings 19. 1 Kings 19:4–5. 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 I 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."

2. God confronted Elijah. 1 Kings 19:9. 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?"

3. Listen to Elijah's self-pity. 1 Kings 19:10. 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."

4. God dealt with Elijah's problem. 1 Kings 19:11–18.

5. Asaph, the psalmist, also fell into the sin of self-pity for a time. Ps. 73.

6. Listen to Asaph's self-pity. Ps. 73:13–14. Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain, And washed my hands in

innocence. For all day long I have been plagued, And chastened every morning.

7. Asaph recovered from his self-pity. Ps. 73:15–28.

8. The Lord directs us to a cure for self-pity. Ps. 37.

9. Turn from self-pity. Prov. 15:13. A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

10. Jonah became angry and was filled with self-pity, for which God rebuked him. Jonah 4:1–4. Jonah 4:3–4. “Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!” Then the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”