

The Wind of Promise

Faced with a big problem I prayed, "Lord, I don't want to see you through the problem, I want to see the problem through you."

I received not so much a picture as knowledge. It was the wind that comes out of the mouth of a tunnel before the train itself is either heard or seen, and it took me back to my days of commuting in London.

I remember standing on platforms on London Underground stations waiting for the tube train to come, looking towards the tunnel but seeing nothing but blackness. Then I could feel the air moving, firstly a soft feeling on the face. Then people's clothes started to move and litter got blown along the track. Then the sound of the train was conducted along the rails and a great phumph of air before the train suddenly burst out of the tunnel and rushed alongside the platform. But the first evidence was the wind being pushed out of the tunnel by the oncoming train.

It reminded me of God's prophet Elijah who had been on Mount Carmel looking for signs of that rain was coming but then running to overtake Ahab's chariot. Ahab even had a start on Elijah—he was already down in the Kishon valley and all he had to do was ride up the valley to Jezreel. Elijah, however had still been up on the top of Mount Carmel, looking for signs of rain. The wind came first, then the rain. The power of God came on Elijah and he ran and overtook the chariot of Ahab.

The spiritual overtakes the natural. The wind came before the prophesied rain and before the power of God manifested on Elijah.

The wind is like hope. It is also a promise, an assurance, before the physical evidence is manifested.