



The Great Overture: Haven and Heaven

September 7th, 2025

And God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters *to separate water from water.*” So God made the expanse and separated the water *under* the expanse from the water *above* it. And it was so. God called the expanse “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

Genesis 1:6-8

The Lord will open *the heavens*, the storehouse of his bounty, *to send rain* on your land in season and *to bless* all the work of your hands.

Deuteronomy 28:12

Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain to water a land where no man lives, a desert with no one in it, to satisfy a desolate wasteland and make it sprout with grass? Does the rain have a father? Who fathers the drops of dew?

Job 38:25-28

Now Elijah said to Ahab, “As the Lord, *the God of Israel, lives*, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

1 Kings 17:1

Then a message from the Lord came to Elijah. It said, “Leave this place. Go east and hide in the Kerith Valley. It is east of the Jordan River. You will drink water from the brook. I have ordered some ravens to feed you there.”

1 Kings 17:2-4

“The Lord is the God of Israel. He says, “The jar of flour will not be used up. The jug will always have oil in it. You will have flour and oil *until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.*”

1 Kings 17:14

Then the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God. *I know that the message you have brought from the Lord is true.*”

1 Kings 17:24

At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be *known today that you are God* in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things *at your command*. Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will *know that you, O Lord, are God*, and that you are *turning their hearts back again.*”

1 Kings 18:36-37

When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “*The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!*”

1 Kings 18:39

And Elijah said to Ahab, “Go, eat and drink, *for there is the sound of a heavy rain.*” So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees.

1 Kings 18:41-42

“Go and look toward the sea,” he told his servant. And he went up and looked. “There is nothing there,” he said. Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.” The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea.”

1 Kings 18:43-44

Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

James 5:17-18

So Elijah said, “Go and tell Ahab, ‘Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.’” Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain came on.

1 Kings 18:44-45