

Chapter 15

God's Messengers to the Northern Kingdom



Now Elijah, who was from Tishbe in Gilead, told King Ahab, "As surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives – the God I serve – there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!" 1 Kings 17:1



**“When Ahab saw him, he
exclaimed, so, is it really you, you
troublemaker of Israel?”
I Kings 18:17**



“You and your family are the troublemakers, for you have refused to obey the commands of the Lord and have worshiped the images of Baal instead.”

1 Kings 18:18



"Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." 1 Kings 18:19



“So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.” But the people said nothing.” I Kings 18:20-21



“When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”

Genesis 3:6



“So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.” But the people said nothing.” I Kings 18:20-21



Elijah caused them to realize there was no middle ground anymore.



In the last days there will be a lot of people sportin' a brand of Christianity that looks and sounds good but will be powerless. We are living in those last days. The world has seen enough fakes. They've seen enough weak-kneed, empty-headed, two-faced, finger-pointin', big talkin',...



**no walkin', wimpy actin', church-
playin', Godless-livin', non-givin',
doubt'n, pout'n, gossip-spoutin',
3 strikes and you're out'n, "I got
problems big as a mountain",
cussin' on Friday but Sunday
morning shoutin', Christians!**



Then Elijah said, "I'm the only prophet of God left in Israel; and there are 450 prophets of Baal. Let the Baal prophets bring up two oxen; let them pick one, butcher it, and lay it out on an altar on firewood...."



don't ignite it. I'll take the other ox, cut it up, and lay it on the wood. But neither will I light the fire. Then you pray to your gods and I'll pray to GOD. ...



The god who answers with fire will prove to be, in fact, God.” All the people agreed: “A good plan—do it!” Elijah told the Baal prophets, “Choose your ox and prepare it. You go first, you’re the majority...



Then pray to your god, but don't light the fire." So they took the ox he had given them, prepared it for the altar, then prayed to Baal. They prayed all morning long, "O Baal, answer us!" But nothing happened—not so much as a whisper of breeze...



Desperate, they jumped and stomped on the altar they had made. By noon, Elijah had started making fun of them, taunting, “Call a little louder—he is a god, after all. Maybe he’s off meditating somewhere or other,...



or maybe he's gotten involved in a project, or maybe he's on vacation. You don't suppose he's overslept, do you, and needs to be waked up?" They prayed louder and louder, cutting themselves with swords and knives—a ritual common to them—until they were covered with blood...



This went on until well past noon. They used every religious trick and strategy they knew to make something happen on the altar, but nothing happened—not so much as a whisper, not a flicker of response. Then Elijah told the people, “Enough of that—it’s my turn. Gather around.”....



**And they gathered. He then put
the altar back together for by now
it was in ruins.”**

1 Kings 18:22-30



Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of Jacob, the same Jacob to whom GOD had said, "From now on your name is Israel and he used the stones to rebuild the altar in the name of the Lord. Then he dug a trench around the altar." 1 Kings 18:31-32



“Then he dug a trench around the altar. He laid firewood on the altar, cut up the ox, put it on the wood and said, “Fill four buckets with water and drench both the ox and the firewood.” Then he said, “Do it again,” and they did it...



**Then he said, “Do it a third time,”
and they did it a third time. The
altar was drenched and the trench
was filled with water.”**

1 Kings 18:32-35



“When it was time for the sacrifice to be offered, Elijah the prophet came up and prayed “O God, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, make it known right now that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I’m doing what I’m doing under your orders...”



Answer me, GOD; O answer me and reveal to this people that you are GOD, the true God, and that you are giving these people another chance at repentance.” ...



**Immediately the fire of God fell and burned up the offering, the wood, the stones, the dirt, and even the water in the trench.”
1 Kings 18:36-38**



**“All the people saw it happen and
fell on their faces in awed worship,
exclaiming, “God is the true God!
God is the true God!”
1 Kings 18:39**

