

## *Elijah and Elisha*

#6, showdown on Mt Carmel, pt 2 - I Kings 18:30-46

Its hard to imagine what the prophets of Baal thought, when they saw how powerless their idol was. All they could do is, silently, stand and watch what the prophet of God was going to do next.

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord which had been torn down.

31 Elijah took twelve stones according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name."

32 So with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he made a trench around the altar, large enough to hold two measures of seed. **(About 4 gal. MacArthur Study Bible)**

33 Then he arranged the wood and cut the ox in pieces and laid it on the wood.

34 And he said, "Fill four pitchers with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." And he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time. And he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. 35 The water flowed around the altar and he also filled the trench with water.

[1.] v:30, the altar, Apparently there had been an altar on the mountain. In I Ki 19:10 & 14, we read what happened to it as well as others. Who destroyed it?

[2.] Question [1.], Who probably gave command to destroy it?

[3.] v:31, twelve stones, Judges 2:7-11 gives a sad account of Israel after Joshua's death. Elijah was giving a message to the people. By this act, what did he want them to remember?

[4.] v:32-35, pitchers with water, Why would this give the people and the prophets of Baal, confidence in Elijah's failure?

[5.] Question [4.], What was done with the water?

[6.] v:35, water flowed around the altar, Why wouldn't the prophets of Baal use water on their altar?

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36 At the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, " O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and I have done all these things at Your word. 37 "Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that You, O Lord, are God, and that You have turned their heart back again."

**the evening sacrifice**, The sacrifice was offered around 3:PM (Ex 29:38-41, Num 28:3-8)

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[7.] v:36-37, came near and said, Why would Elijah want all the people to hear what he prayed?

[8.] v:36-37 again, Answer me, What reason did Elijah give for asking the Lord to answer.

[9.] v:36-37 again, and that You have, Elijah gave God credit for the work that is happening in in the people. What was it?

[10.] v:38, fire of the Lord, What did the fire consume?

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

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39 When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He is God; the Lord, He is God."

40 Then Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; do not let one of them escape." So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.



41 Now Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of the roar of a heavy shower."

[11.] v:38, The Lord, He is God, By making this confession, what were the people saying about Baal?

[12.] v:40, slew them, This grisly scene describes the end of those false prophets. What might be the end of the false teachers of our time, mentioned in II Peter 2:1?

[13.] question [12.], Since the Lord called you to share His word, a good rule to follow is:

- a) Make it up as you go along.
- b) Rely on current opinions, i.e. evening news, latest books, hottest preachers on TV etc.
- c) Since our real teacher is the Holy Spirit, listen to Him.

[14.] v:40 again, Ahab witnessed the dismembering of the prophets of Baal. Also, the prophet of God stated he was the real "troubler of Israel" What might he be thinking?

[15.] v:41, Here the Lord is fulfilling the promise He made back in 18:1. Ahab saw the initial reason for the drought removed. What did he witness?

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42 So Ahab went up to eat and drink. But Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he crouched down on the earth and put his face between his knees.

43 He said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go back" seven times.

44 It came about at the seventh time, that he said, "Behold, a cloud as small as a man's hand is coming up from the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, so that the heavy shower does not stop you.'"

45 In a little while the sky grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy shower. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel.

46 Then the hand of the Lord was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and outran Ahab to Jezreel.

[16.] v:41 again, "Along the same line", Galatians 5:19-21 lists some deeds of the flesh. Romans 8:13 uses the colorful old KJV term "mortify". What are professing believers commanded to do?

[17.] v:42, face between his knees, Ahab started celebrating but Elijah had another task. What was it?

[18.] v:43-44, a cloud, What was coming?

[19.] v:44, say to Ahab, What did Elijah know about the Lord so that he didn't need wait to verify that the rain was indeed coming?

[20.] v:45, went to Jezreel About how far is this from Mt. Carmel?

[21.] v:46, outran Ahab to Jezreel, It doesn't say but Elijah probably didn't want any false reports given at Jezreel. What stories might Ahab tell to cover up the truth?

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### **NOTES**