

**1 Kings 18**  
**Elijah and the Prophets of Baal**  
**Lesson 13**

By confronting Ahab the king of Israel on one hand and ministering to the needs of the widow on the other, Elijah showed that the Lord God of Israel was both all powerful and all compassionate, and He, not Baal, held power over life.

**Elijah and Obediah**

1. The drought and famine were signs from God warning Ahab and Israel of their disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:22 & 23). But Ahab's heart was hard and he would not turn from his idolatry. When Ahab refused to acknowledge his sin, God used a direct confrontation. How long does it say that the famine had gone on? (1 Kings 18:1a & James 5:17)
  
2. What did God command Elijah to do and why did He say to go at that time? (vs. 1)
  
3. How had the drought affected Israel? (vs. 2b, 5 & 6)
  
4. While Ahab looked for ways to keep his animals alive, what did his wife, Queen Jezebel, do? (vs. 4a)
  
5. What was said about Obediah and how did he defy the Queen? (vs. 3, 4)
  
6. When Obediah went out looking for water for Ahab's animals, he met Elijah walking along the road. How did Obediah react when he saw Elijah? (vs. 7)
  
7. Elijah assured Obediah he was indeed the prophet, Elijah and asked him to deliver the message to King Ahab that "Elijah is here." How did Obediah answer Elijah's request? (vs. 8-9)

8. Why was Obediah afraid to bring the news of his arrival to Ahab? (vs. 10-12b)
  
9. Obediah gave Elijah some important information about himself and the spiritual situation in Israel. What did he tell Elijah? (vs. 12c - 14)

Elijah assured Obediah that he would not flee but would present himself to the king that very day (vs. 15). Obediah then went to King Ahab with the news that Elijah had arrived.

### **Elijah's Challenge**

10. Hearing the news, Ahab went out to meet Elijah. When he saw him, what did he call Elijah? Please comment. (vs. 16 & 17)
  
11. Elijah was not afraid of this evil king and told him exactly what God's view of the situation was. How did Elijah answer Ahab's accusation? (vs. 18)
  
12. What did Elijah tell Ahab to do? (vs. 19)
  
13. Did you "see" that amazing number? How many false prophets was the Queen of Israel personally supporting at the royal palace? Please comment. (vs. 19)
  
14. The stage was now set for a showdown between the gods. Elijah's and Jezebel's prophets were assembled on Mount Carmel as the participants. Who were the spectators? (vs. 19a, 21a, 30a & 39a)
  
15. Who did Elijah address; what did he say and why? (vs. 21a & b)
  
16. Notice the response to Elijah's challenge. What was their answer? (vs. 21c) Please comment on why you think this was.

17. What statistics did he give the people? (vs. 22)
  
18. Obediah had already told Elijah there were at least 100 other prophets of God safely hidden. Why do you think Elijah said he was the only one left?

### **The Test of the Gods**

19. Since this was about who was the real God, Elijah chose the sacrificial system for the test. How was it to be done and what was the real test? (vs. 23, 24a & b)
  
20. What did the spectators think of Elijah's test? (vs. 24c)
  
21. Elijah said that since there were so many prophets of Baal, they should go first. What were the instructions? (vs. 25)
  
22. How did they begin? (vs. 26a)
  
23. How long did this go on? (vs. 26)
  
24. How did Elijah "help" them? (vs. 27)
  
25. What did they do then? (vs. 28)
  
26. How long did Elijah allow them to keep this up? (vs. 29a & Exodus 29:38 & 39)
  
27. How did Baal respond to the test? (vs. 29c)
  
28. Elijah finally "called time" and said that it was his turn. They all gathered around Elijah and he began. What did he do first? (vs. 30-32)

29. After preparing his sacrifice as the prophets of Baal had done, he added a bit of intrigue to the test. What did he do? (vs. 33-35)
  
30. The test had begun at sunrise; what time was it at this point? (vs. 29)
  
31. Elijah stepped forward and began praying to the Lord God of Israel. What tone of voice had the prophets of Baal used? (vs. 26 & 28)
  
32. What tone does it imply Elijah used? (vs. 36a)
  
33. What did Elijah say was his three-fold purpose for this test? (vs. 36)
  
34. From 1 Kings 18:37:
  - Why did Elijah say he was asking the Lord to answer him in this way?
  
  - And what did Elijah say God was doing?
  
  - Please comment.
  
35. How did God answer Elijah? (vs. 38)
  
36. The reaction of the people was immediate. Describe the scene. (vs. 39)

### **The Aftermath**

37. God had clearly revealed Himself to His people. Elijah carried out God's law as given in Exodus 22:20.
  - What was the law?
  
  - How did Elijah carry it out? (vs. 40)