

LET THE FIRE FALL

1 Kings 18

Big Idea: *Serve God alone—and let every idol burn.*

¹“Now it happened after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, ‘Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth.’ ²So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria. ³Ahab called Obadiah who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly; ⁴for when Jezebel destroyed the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water.) ⁵Then Ahab said to Obadiah, ‘Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys; perhaps we will find grass and keep the horses and mules alive, and not have to kill some of the cattle.’ ⁶So they divided the land between them to survey it; Ahab went one way by himself and Obadiah went another way by himself. ⁷Now as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him, and he recognized him and fell on his face and said, ‘Is this you, Elijah my master?’ ⁸He said to him, ‘It is I. Go, say to your master, ‘Behold, Elijah is here.’ ⁹He said, ‘What sin have I committed, that you are giving your servant into the hand of Ahab to put me to death? ¹⁰As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent to search for you; and when they said, ‘He is not here,’ he made the kingdom or nation swear that they could not find you. ¹¹And now you are saying, ‘Go, say to your master, “Behold, Elijah is here.”’

1. God calls His people to _____ and _____ the darkness around them.

¹⁷ “When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, ‘Is this you, you troubler of Israel?’ ¹⁸ He said, ‘I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father’s house have, because you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and you have followed the Baals.’”

John 3:19 “This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.”

Acts 17:6 “When they did not find them, they *began* dragging Jason and some brethren before the city authorities, shouting, ‘These men who have upset the world have come here also;’”

2. God responds to _____, not _____.

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. 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.’”

James 5:16-18 “Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.”

NOTES: