#### 4/10/11

# Elijah, Faith To Triumph 1Kings 18:17-46

Elijah was commanded by God to go the capital of the northern Kingdom, Samaria and present himself before Ahab, for a second time because God was about to send rain.

- \* God had sent a drought for 3 1/2 years in the land of Israel, as a direct judgment for their idolatrous worship of Baal. 1Kings 18:1
- **1.** Elijah had appeared out of nowhere in Samaria, walked in, declared the prophecy and exited.
- **2.** Elijah was provided for and protected by God, at the Brook Cherith and at Zerephath in Sidon.
  - **a**. He drank water by the natural resources of the brook Cherith and he ate through divine resources by the ravens.
  - **b**. At Zerephath through the natural resource of a widow and through divine resources of multiplying the flour and oil.

Ahab and Jezebel have been looking for Elijah in every nation, without success and now Elijah in obedience is on his way to Samaria to present himself before Ahab he runs into Obadiah.

\* Obadiah was a God-fearing man searching for grass to keep the horses and mules alive, as commanded by Ahab, to not kill the livestock.

Obadiah fell to the ground on his face to the ground and Elijah told him to go tell Ahab, "Elijah is here", but he Obadiah expressed his fears about Elijah disappearing and Ahab would then kill him, but Elijah promised he would not disappear. So we want to focus our attention on the triumph of Elijah over the prophets of Baal that unfolds for us in three movements: 1Kings 18:17-46

- **I.** Elijah confronted Ahab and the people about their worship of Baal. vs. 17-24
- II. Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal. vs. 25-29
- III. Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal. vs. 30-46

# I. Elijah confronted Ahab and the people about their worship of Baal. vs. 17-24

- **A.** The face to face encounter of Ahab and Elijah was anything but friendly. vs. 17-19
  - 1. The evil arrogant response of Ahab was immediately, at his first sight of Elihah, "Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?" vs. 17
    - **a.** Ahab blamed Elijah for the 3 1/2 year drought that had devastated the country.
      - 1) When in reality Ahab and Jezebel were the culprits, for introducing the worship of Baal.

- 2) The judgment was God's direct challenge to Baal, who was to be in control of rain. 1Kings 17:1
- **b.** Ahab greeted Elijah with an insult, substituting his name for the accusation, "O troubler of Israel."
  - 1) The word troubler "akar" means the one to stir up and disturb the land Israel, the northern kingdom.
  - 2) The word is used for Achan, when he took the accursed things and brought defeat on Israel. Josh. 7:25
- **2.** The courageous prophet Elijah without any hesitation responded back to Ahab. vs. 18
  - **a.** He instantly denied the charges of Ahab, "And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel." vs. 18a-b
  - **b.** He named who were the true culprits, "but you and your father's house. vs. 18c
  - c. He charged Ahab with apostasy, "in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and have followed the Baals." vs. 18c
    \* The Baals is in the plural, for there were many being worshipped.
- **3.** The prophet Elijah took charge and commanded Ahab to gather the apostate nation at Mount Carmel. vs. 19

- **a.** The people are mentioned first, "Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel." vs. 19a-b
  - 1) All Israel indicates the false worshippers of the northern kingdom.
  - 2) Mount Carmel is in the north of the country, close to the modern day city of Hifa on the Mediterranean, forty miles from Samaria, the capital of Ahab's kingdom.
  - 3) Carmel is 1740 feet above sea level and a continuation of the hills of Samaria, extending NW to the Mediterranean Sea and on the same latitude as the Sea of Galilee, 35 miles to the east.
  - 4) Carmel "Karmel', means "garden land", due to its lush vegetation and has many caves, with certainty where Obadiah had hid the prophets. 1Kings 18:4
- **b.** The false prophets are mentioned second. vs. 19c-e
  - 1) The 450 prophets of Baal. vs. 19c
  - **2)** The 400 prophets of Asherah, who ate at Jezebel's table, provided and protected by her . vs. 19d
  - 3) Asherah, meaning "the groves" the Canaanite goddess of fertility, the consort of Baal.

- **B.** The prophet Elijah confronted the people. vs. 20-24
  - **1.** The apostate Ahab obeyed the commands of Elijah the prophet. <u>vs. 20</u>
    - **a.** He gathered the people of Israel.
    - **b.** He gathered also the false prophets on Mount Carmel.
      - 1) This was to be a "power encounter", between Yahweh and the prophets of Baal.
      - 2) Mount Carmel is the SW boarder of the plain of Esdralon and the Valley of Megiddo, where the last battle will take place, at the return of Jesus to the earth. Rev. 16:16, 19:1-21
  - **2.** The apostate people were rebuked by Elijah to their own shame. vs. 21
    - a. He rebuked them for their compromising indecisiveness, "And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions?" vs. 21a-c
      - 1 The word falter "pacach" means to limp between two things, literally.
      - 2) The people were syncretistic in their worship of Baal and ascribing it to the worship of Yahweh.
    - **b.** He called for them to make a decision, "If the LORD is God, follow

- Him; but if Baal, follow him." <u>vs.</u> <u>21d-g</u>
- c. He heard no response, "But the people answered him not a word." vs. 21h
  \* The people were indifferent about the worship of Yahweh.
- **3.** The prophet of Elijah declared he stood alone against the prophets of Baal. vs. 22
  - **a.** Elijah believed he was the only prophet of God left, "Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the LORD, Yahweh. vs. 22a-b
  - **b.** Elijah pointed out the many false prophets, "But Baal's prophets are four-hundred and fifty men." vs. 22c
- **4.** The prophet Elijah laid out to the people the specifics of God's challenge to the god Baal. vs. 23-24
  - **a.** The particulars of the sacrifice were stated. vs. 23
    - 1) Two bulls were to be provided, "Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves." vs. 23a-b
    - 2) The two bulls were to be prepared, "cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it." vs. 23c-f

- **b.** The proof of being God was declared, vs. 24
  - 1) Both would petition their God, "Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD." vs. 24a-b
  - 2) Both would know who was God "and the God who answers by fire, He is God." vs. 24c
    \* God often responded and manifested Himself by fire. Gen. 19:24, Ex. 3:2, 19:18, 40:38
  - **3**) Both were in agreement, "So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken." <u>vs. 24d-e</u>

### Illustration

Paul confronted Agrippa, he said, "King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe. Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian. And Paul said, "I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains." Acts 26:27-29

## **Application**

**1.** How important it is that Christians have the courage to confront those promoting evil in our society.

- **a.** The PC atmosphere of our nation has been presented falsely as promoting peace and safety, when in reality it has assaulted our freedom of speech and masked evil.
- **b.** The evil of Planned Parenthood.
- **c.** The evil of Public Education, that is more accurately "Public Indoctrination".
- **d.** The evil opposing only Christianity in every level of society being promoted by liberal educator, legislators and judicial courts.
- e. Each of us need to know what is going on in schools and our nation to protest against the evil by voting, petitioning and calling your senators and representative to voice your opinion, rather than being indifferent, intimidated and fearful.
  - \* "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matt. 5:14-16
- 2. How equally important it is that the Christian confront individuals on their religious or atheistic beliefs that form their world view.

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- **a.** To challenge their belief about their gods.
- **b.** To challenge the basis and authority behind what they believe.
- **c.** To challenge them in their atheism or agnosticism.
- **d.** To challenge them on the consequences of their belief on the world and eternity.
  - 1) "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil." 1Pet. 3:15-17
  - 2) "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God." 2Tim. 1:7-8
- **3.** How important it is that we as Christians present a decisive choice to all who we would be privileged to ministry the gospel.
  - a. All must chose between truth and error.
  - **b.** All must chose between life and death.
  - **c.** All must chose between heaven and hell.

\* "Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Josh. 24:14-15

# Elijah confronted Ahab and the people about their worship of Baal without fear!

# II. Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal. <u>vs.</u> <u>25-29</u>

- **A.** The prophet Elijah permitted the prophets of Baal to call on their god first. vs. 25-26
  - 1. Elijah gave them their instructions. vs. 25
    - **a.** They were to present their sacrifice on the alter, "Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare it first, for you are many." vs. 25a-c
    - **b.** They were to summon Baal, "and call on the name of your god." vs. 25d

- \* The prophets of Asherah must not have come, not being mentioned.
- **c.** They were to light no fire, "but put no fire under it." vs. 25e
- **2.** The prophets of Baal followed the instructions. vs. 26
  - **a.** The sacrifice was set on the alter, "So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it." vs. 26a-b
    - 1) They cut the sacrifice.
    - 2) They set it on the alter.
  - **b.** They summoned their god for hours, "and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon.' vs. 26c
    - 1) 9 To 12 P.M would be three hours.
    - 2) 6 A. M. to 12 P. M. was probably the case.
  - **c.** Their words are recorded, "saying, "O Baal, hear us!" vs. 26d-e
    - 1) Their words were directed to Baal.
    - 2) Their words pleaded for fire to come down and light the sacrifice.
  - **d.** Their words were in vain, "But there was no voice; no one answered." vs. 26f
    - 1) No sound was heard.
    - 2) No fire was seen.
  - e. They became very emotionally demonstrative, "Then they leaped about the altar which they had made." vs, 26g

- 1) Often when people become emotional, to appear spiritual.
- 2) The reality is that it is a sign of frustration.
- **B.** The prophet Elijah proceeded to mock the prophets of Baal. vs. 27
  - 1. Elijah began to mock them at mid-day. vs. 27
    - **a.** This is after 6 hours, "And so it was, at noon", 12 P. M. vs. 27a
    - **b.** Elijah mocked their claimed that Baal was a god, "that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god. vs. 27b-d
    - **c.** Elijah mocked Baal's ability to hear two things at the same time, "either he is meditating". vs. 27e
    - **d.** Elijah mocked Baal's inability to perform two things at the same time, "or he is busy." vs. 27f
    - e. Elijah mocked Baal's ability to be everywhere at the same time, "or he is on a journey." vs. 27g
    - **f.** Elijah mocked Baal's need of rest, being tired, "or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened." vs. 27h
      - 1) They believed in the summer things became dry, due to Baal being asleep or confined to the underworld.

- 2) Oct.- Nov. he would be active again.
- 2. The prophets of Baal's emotional frustration turned into physical mutilation. vs. 28
  - a. This was their common practice, "So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances." vs. 28a-c
  - **b.** This revealed their hopeless devotion, "until the blood gushed out on them." vs. 28d
- C. The prophets of Baal failed to bring fire from heaven from the god Baal. vs. 29
  - 1. They continued in their vain attempt to have Baal answer them, "And when midday was past, they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice." vs. 29a-b
    - a. They continued from 12 to 6 P. M.
    - **b.** Six P. M. at the evening sacrifice.
  - 2. They continued having the same result, "But there was no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention." vs. 29c-d
    - **a.** Baal did not speak.
    - **b.** Baal did not answer.
    - **c.** Baal did not pay attention.

God said to Moses, "For I will pass through the land of **Egypt** on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of **Egypt**, both man and beast; and against all the **gods** of **Egypt** I will execute judgment: I am the LORD." Ex. 12:12

# **Application**

- 1. Christians are to challenge people and their religions, not in a hostel manner, but in an attitude of love to allow them to see their need of salvation.
  - a. Weather their beliefs are according to the Bible.
  - **b.** Weather their practice contradicts the Bible.
  - c. Weather they add or take away from the Bible.
  - **d.** To point out the provision made by God in His Son, Jesus Christ and no one else.
    - \* "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.' Heb. 1:1-2
- **2.** The Christian is to present the irrationality of the various beliefs of people by the Scriptures.
  - **a.** People believe man is good, yet the Bible teaches and provides the evidence from the beginning that man is fallen and has a sin nature. Gen. 5:3, Rom. 5:12

### **Illustration**

- **b.** People believe that it does not matter what they believer, yet the Bible clear, what is at stake is eternity separated from God.
  - \* "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." Jn. 3:36
- **c.** People believe Satan is not real that Christians have made him up.
  - \* Jesus certainly believed in Satan and defeated him in the wilderness, in one of his attacks Jesus said, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve." Matt. 4:10
- **3.** The Christian is to share the truth without any shame or embarrassment, but boldly.
  - **a.** That one must acknowledge to be a sinner.
  - **b.** That one must confess and repent from sin.
  - **c.** That one must be born again to enter the kingdom of God.
    - \* Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jn. 3:3

Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal with patient confidence!

# III. Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal. vs. 30-46

- **A.** The prophet Elijah presented himself before the apostate people to prepare the altar of Yahweh. vs. 30-35
  - **1.** Elijah summoned the worshipers of Baal to himself. vs. 30
    - a. He invited the on-looking crowd with great confidence, "Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me. So all the people came near to him." vs. 30a-c
      - 1) They drew near without doubt disappointed with Baal.
      - **2)** They drew near without doubt disbelieving in Yahweh.
    - **b**. He approached the neglected and abandoned alter of Yahweh, "And he repaired the altar of the LORD *that was* broken down." <u>vs. 30d</u>
      - 1) Ahab had married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, King of the Sidonians and served Baal and worshipped him, setting up an alter to Baal, in the temple of Baal, he built in Samaria. 1Kings 16:31-32
      - 2) Jezebel had massacred the prophets of Yahweh. <u>1Kings 18:4</u>
  - **2.** Elijah proceeded to prepare the altar of Yahweh. vs. 31
    - **a.** He chose 12 stones to represent the 12 tribes as a united nation, according to God's design, "And Elijah took

twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob." vs. 31a-b

- 1) The number 12 signifies perfection of government.
- 2) There are 12 Patriarchs from Seth to Noah, 12 from Shem to Jacob.
- 3) The number 12 was predominate in the Temple of Solomon.
- 4) There are 12 apostles, 12 foundations in the heavenly Jerusalem, 12 gates, 12 pearls and 12 angels and the size of the New Jerusalem is a multiple of 12, 12,000 furlongs square.
- 5) Twelve persons were recorded as being anointed for leading, five were priest, Aaron and his sons and seven were kings, Saul, David, Absalom, Solomon, Jehu, Joash and Jehoahaz. (E.W. Bullinger, Number in Scriptures: 253-54)
- **b.** He indicated the united nation was only possible, if they were governed by Yahweh, as He changed his name, "to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name." vs. 31c-e
  - 1) Jacob "Ya' aqib", means hell catcher or supplanter.

- 2) Israel "Yisra'el", means God prevail or governed by God, appearing 2231 times in the O.T.
- 3) Israel in the Greek means "he shall be a prince of God", confirming the idea of governing and ruling over the nation, appearing 73 times in the New Testament.
- **c.** He constructed the altar. vs. 32
  - 1) Dedicated to Yahweh, "Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD." vs. 32a
  - 2) Encircled by a trench, "and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed." vs. 32b
    - \* About a yard around the altar.
- **d.** He set up for the sacrifice, "And he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid *it* on the wood." <u>vs.</u> 33a-c
- e. He then did something very strange, "and said, "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood." vs. 33d-e
  - 1) A burnt offering symbolized dedication and consecration to God. Lev. 1
  - 2) The water would only hinder the wood to ignite with fire!

- f. He commanded water be poured two more times, "Then 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." vs. 34

  \* The drought has lasted 3 1/2 years and Elijah is pouring all this water, knowing rain was coming.
- 3. The preparations were not really conducive for a sacrifice, "So the water ran all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water." vs. 35
  - **a.** Elijah was making a very clear statement, that no natural means could light this alter with fire, except God.
  - **b.** The God of Israel is Omnipotent, all powerful, nothing is impossible!
- **B.** The prophet Elijah called upon the name of Yahweh to answer by fire. vs. 36-40
  - **1.** The petition of Elijah by faith deals first with the honor of God. vs. 36
    - a. At the appropriate time, "And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said." vs. 36a-b
    - **b.** By the appropriate name, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel." vs. 36c-e
    - c. For the appropriate reasons. vs. 36f-g

- 1) First, "let it be known this day that You are God in Israel." vs. 36f
- 2) Second, "and I am Your servant." vs. 36f
- 3) Third, "that I have done all these things at Your word." vs. 36g
- 2. The petition of Elijah deals second with the salvation of man. vs. 37
  - **a.** By a passionate plead, "Hear me, O LORD, hear me." vs. 37a-c
  - **b.** For the perception of an apostate people, "that this people may know that You are the LORD God." vs. 37d
  - **c.** That they would repent and return to God, "and that You have turned their hearts back to You again." vs. 37e
- **3.** The petition of Elijah was answered. <u>vs.</u> <u>38</u>
  - a. Elijah and all the people witness the power of Yahweh, as He excepted the sacrifice, answering by fire, "Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench." vs. 38
  - **b.** Elijah saw the people turn their hearts back to God. vs. 39
    - 1) They revered God, "Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces." <u>vs. 39a-b</u>

- 2) They confessed Yahweh was God, "and they said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!" vs. 39c-g
- **b.** Elijah saw the genuineness of their conversion by their actions. vs. 40
  - 1) Elijah commanded the people to slay the prophets of Baal, "And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" vs. 40a-c
  - 2) Elijah saw their obedience, "So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there. Kishon means winding. <u>vs. 40d-e</u>
- C. The prophet Elijah declared to Ahab the judgment of God had been fulfilled according to the prophecy. vs. 41-46
  - **1.** Elijah declared to Ahab the drought was over. vs. 41-42a
    - **a.** He commanded Ahab to do what had been difficult during the drought, resulting in famine, "Elijah said to Ahab, go up, eat and drink." vs. 41a-c
    - **b.** He prophesied the drought was over, "for there is the sound of abundance of rain." vs. 41d
    - **c.** He saw Ahab obey him, "So Ahab went up to eat and drink." vs. 42a

- 2. Elijah turned to pray for rain. vs. 42b
  - a. He chose a high location with a humble posture, "And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees." vs. 42b-d
  - **b.** He commanded his servant to look west, "and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." vs. 43a-c
  - **c.** His servant saw no evidence of rain, "So he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." <u>vs. 43d-f</u>
  - **d.** He continued to pray for rain, "And seven times he said, "Go again. Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" vs. 43g-44-d
    - \* Elijah prayed in faith. Ja. 5:17
- **3.** Elijah was vindicated to be the prophet of Yahweh. vs. 44e-46
  - a. He told his servant to warn Ahab about the coming rain, "So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you." vs. 44e-h
    - 1) His chariot would get stuck in the mud.
    - 2) Some see a contradiction and verse 42a, the Bible is an eastern book

- giving events, then details after, much like Genesis 1 and 2.
- b. He observed the coming storm cowardly Ahab ride away, "Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel." vs. 45

  \* Jezreel was 15 miles going SE.
- c. He, Elijah was empowered by God to outrun Ahab, one last evidence that Yahweh was God, not Baal. vs. 46
  - 1) The Spirit infused Elijah, "Then the hand of the LORD came upon Elijah." vs. 46a
  - 2) The prophet ran super-naturally 15 miles, arriving at the gate of the city before Ahab, "and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel." vs. 46b

### **Illustration**

"Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up." <u>Dan. 3:16-18</u>

\* Nebuchadnezzar called them out of the fiery furnace and they were untouched and he said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! <u>Dan. 3:28</u>

## **Application**

- **1.** God will present to each of us many different opportunities to share Christ.
  - **a.** We are only the messengers, God lone can make His word alive and bring a person to conviction of their sins, not I.
  - **b.** The life of sin that a person is involved in does not matter, the love and power of God to save is not handicapped in any way.
  - **c.** The free-will of man is the determining fact, if they believe the gospel God will save them, if they do not, they remain lost.
    - \* "But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:8-10

- **2.** Some people regardless of the opportunities and grace of God they will reject and even hate God.
  - **a.** The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness. Rom. 1:18
  - **b.** Professing themselves to be wise, they become fools. Rom. 1:22
  - c. Therefore God give people up to uncleanness, vile passions and debased minds, that they receive error of their due. Rom. 1:24, 26, 28
- **3.** God desires for us to intercede in prayer for those who are lost and not be discouraged.
  - **a.** We know our prayers do not over-ride a person's free-will, but we prayer for them.
  - **b.** We know that God will not force a person to be save, just because I am praying for them.
  - **c.** We that God will use and honor our prayers for the lost, that they might be saved.
    - \* "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1Tim. 2:1-4

# Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal by the power of God!

### **Conclusion**

The triumph of Elijah over the prophets of Baal has unfolded for us in three movements:

- I. Elijah confronted Ahab and the people about their worship of Baal without fear!
- **II.** Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal in patient confidence!
- **III.** Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal by the power of God!