BENEVOLENT FAITH MINISTRIES





"ABIDING IN THE VINE" - BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS THE "HEAVENLY FIRE" SERIES, PT. 1 "THE CHALLENGE ON MOUNT CARMEL" (WHEN THE FIRE OF THE LORD FELL)

<u>BIG IDEA</u>: The "challenge" was to the authority and sovereignty of the one true God vs. Baal (and by extension, every other god in pagan society), and the answer demonstrated what our faith in Him says about overcoming seemingly impossible circumstances.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: 1 Kings 18:17-40

Discussion Question: Initially, what lessons can you see for people to take from this text? What can the "fire of the Lord" represent to Believers in today's society?

Page 1 of 4

So we must first ask ourselves.....when did the "fire of the Lord' fall? That is, when EXACTLY did God respond to Elijah's appeal?

A. It Was When the Alter Was Repaired

"Then Elijah said to all the people, 'Come near to me.' And all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been thrown down." – 1 Kings 18:30

Discussion Question: What is the significance of this for us? For more context, read Colossians 1:18. How does this "fire of the Lord" ideology relate to us and to Colossians 1:18?

B. It Was When the Sacrifice Was Offered

"And he put the wood in order and cut the bull in pieces and laid it on the wood. And he said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." – 1 Kings 18:33

Discussion Question (takes honest introspection and self-reflection...cause you ain't lyin' to nobody BUT God)

- Ask yourself: how many of the "pieces" of my life have I really offered to the Lord upon the altar? Have I yielded all the "pieces" to Him?
- Have I truly given myself FULLY to him...or is He only getting parts of me?
- Is He only getting the parts of me that *<u>I want</u>* to relinquish?

Page	2	of	Л
rage	2	01	4

C. It Was When the Water Was Poured

"And he put the wood in order and cut the bull in pieces and laid it on the wood. And he said, "Fill four jars 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. And the water ran around the altar and filled the trench also with water." – 1 Kings 18:33-35

Discussion Question: What things do we substitute for "the fire of the Lord"?

D. It Was When the Prayer Was Made

"And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." – 1 Kings 18:36-37

Discussion Question: Reread verses 36 and 37 carefully.....what is the significance about when, where and how Elijah prayed?

Page 3 of 4

Page 4 of 4