

## 1 Kings 18

King James Version (KJV)

**18** And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth. (This is very dangerous for Elijah. Ahab is looking for him so he can kill him. He blames Elijah for the drought)

<sup>2</sup>And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore famine in Samaria. (It lasted 3.5 years) see Luke-4:25, James-5:17

<sup>3</sup>And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly: (Obadiah = serving Yah) (Governor of his house = he was the steward of Ahab's house)

<sup>4</sup>For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.) (He risked his life to save these prophets. Jezebel tried to kill all of God's prophets and priests to eliminate the worship of Yahoveh in Israel. Civil law overtook God's law in Israel. Like the US today)

<sup>5</sup>And Ahab said unto Obadiah, Go into the land, unto all fountains of water, and unto all brooks: peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts.

<sup>6</sup>So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself. (They split up to cover more ground)

<sup>7</sup>And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art thou that my lord Elijah?

<sup>8</sup>And he answered him, I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

<sup>9</sup>And he said, What have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? (Telling Ahab now might get Obadiah killed)

<sup>10</sup>As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found

thee not. (Ahab sent him everywhere to find Elijah. For him to show up now might look like Obadiah was colluding with him against Ahab)

<sup>11</sup> And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

<sup>12</sup> And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth. (fear= revere – same word in Hebrew)

<sup>13</sup> Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water? (He has already put his life on the line going against Jezebel)

<sup>14</sup> And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here: and he shall slay me.

<sup>15</sup> And Elijah said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely shew myself unto him to day. (This is an oath unto God)

<sup>16</sup> So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

<sup>17</sup> And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? (Ahab is a fool)

<sup>18</sup> And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim. (Ahab and the people caused God's wrath to fall upon Israel because of idolatry. Elijah had nothing to do with it) Leviticus-26:19

<sup>19</sup> Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table. (A saying that means she supports them with food and shelter) (Carmel means pleasant or fruitful place. It also had a spring of water)

<sup>20</sup> So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. (There was plenty of water left in the cistern in Carmel. Carmel was 2000 feet in elevation and close to the Mediterranean Sea)

<sup>21</sup> And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. (We still do this today by celebrating Easter, instead of Passover. They wanted to worship Yahoveh, but wouldn't give up the idolatry in the groves. You can't have it both ways) see Malachi-4:5-6 (The choice is ours; worship God or follow the ways of the world)

<sup>22</sup> Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

<sup>23</sup> Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

<sup>24</sup> And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken. (The Baal priests were in a position that they couldn't back out of, because the people all heard the challenge. They had to prove that Baal was real)

<sup>25</sup> And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under.

<sup>26</sup> And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made. (upon = before – better translation)

<sup>27</sup> And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. (He is pursuing – means he's on a restroom break)

<sup>28</sup> And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

<sup>29</sup> And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded. (They tried all day long, with no result. By now, the spectators are growing weary)

<sup>30</sup> And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.

<sup>31</sup> And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name: **Genesis-32:28 (God named Jacob, Israel)**

<sup>32</sup> And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. **(a trench about 3 feet wide) (The 12 stones are symbolic for the 12 tribes that will be reunited in the end times)**

<sup>33</sup> And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood. **(He's making it even harder to light, by flooding the wood)**

<sup>34</sup> And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

<sup>35</sup> And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

<sup>36</sup> And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. **(Elijah was doing this at God's bidding. He was not putting on a side show)**

<sup>37</sup> Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. **Malachi-4:6 (This is prophecy for the end times)**

<sup>38</sup> Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. **(This should have been proof enough for the people. It should have ended Baal worship. It didn't)**

<sup>39</sup> And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.

<sup>40</sup> And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there. **Deuteronomy-13:1-5**

<sup>41</sup> And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain. **(The drought was about to end)**

<sup>42</sup> So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees, **(He is humbling himself before God)**

<sup>43</sup> And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times. **(This is the Mediterranean Sea)**

<sup>44</sup> And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down that the rain stop thee not. **(A chariot's wheels could get stuck in the mud from the coming rain)**

<sup>45</sup> And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

<sup>46</sup> And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel. **(about 18 miles)**