



Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

1 Kings 17:1; 18:17–46



LESSON GOAL

Students will acknowledge the supremacy of God through humble obedience.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- Explain Elijah's purpose for calling the Israelites and priests of Baal to Mount Carmel.
- Describe the events on Mount Carmel.
- Analyze why God did not send rain until after the events on Mount Carmel.

KEY VERSE

"Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again" (1 Kings 18:37).

APPLICATION

- Acknowledge the supremacy of God by submitting to and worshiping Him.
- Be confident that God answers the prayers of the righteous.
- Worship God alone.

NEXT WEEK

God Is Glorified by Protecting Judah
Read 2 Kings 18–19.

Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children” (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

Jeroboam was only the first of many wicked kings to rule the northern kingdom of Israel. The destruction of Jeroboam’s family in fulfillment of prophecy was not enough to turn Israel’s kings back to the Lord. Instead, subsequent kings continued to lead Israel into idolatry. Although the Lord sent prophets to pronounce judgment on the kings, the kings did not submit to the Lord. One of the most wicked of these kings was King Ahab.

During his reign, King Ahab earned the shameful evaluation of having done more evil than those kings before him, including Jeroboam (1 Kings 16:30). Ahab married wicked Jezebel, daughter of the king of the Sidonians. Like the Sidonians (who lived to the northwest of Israel), Ahab worshiped Baal, the storm god believed to be responsible for sending rain. Ahab built a temple for Baal in Israel (16:32). Although Solomon had also built temples and worshiped idols, Ahab surpassed the idolatry of Solomon by actively advocating the worship of Baal. Ahab’s wife, Jezebel, was responsible for executing as many prophets of the Lord as she could find (1 Kings 18:4), forcing those who escaped (like Elijah) to either flee or hide. Ahab and his wife were trying to wipe out the worship of the Lord from Israel. First Kings 16:33 says, “Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.”

The Lord Sends a Drought (1 Kings 17:1)

Although Ahab and Jezebel were trying to eradicate the worship of the Lord in Israel, the Lord had not left Himself without a witness. Into the dark silence of Israel’s idolatry came Elijah’s announcement that the Lord lived (despite what the reigning family would have liked Israel to think). While Israel had been praising Baal for the blessing of the autumn and spring rains and the summer dew, which watered the crops, the Lord had been patiently waiting for His people to repent. But just as the Lord had warned in Deuteronomy 11:16–17, Israel’s rejection of God’s Law would be punished by drought. Elijah told Ahab, “As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word” (1 Kings 17:1). The book of James reveals that God withheld the rain in response to Elijah’s prayer (James 5:17). Infuriated by the people’s spurning of the Lord, Elijah prayed that God would punish them. Elijah was eager that Israel know and worship the sovereign Lord who lives.

The Demonstration of Deity (1 Kings 18:17–24)

While God provided for Elijah (1 Kings 17:2–7) and continued to testify to his prophetic call (17:24), the rest of Israel suffered the effects of a drought that lasted three and a half years (1 Kings 18:1; James 5:17). King Ahab himself was forced to survey the land of Israel, trying to find enough grass to keep the horses and mules alive (1 Kings 18:5). Although the famine was severe, neither king nor country

were ready to repent of their wicked idolatry and glorify the Lord. God graciously did not wait for the people to repent. In His abundant mercy, the Lord told Elijah that He would send rain, and He sent Elijah to Ahab (1 Kings 18:1). Upon meeting again, Ahab called Elijah the “troubler of Israel,” as if to blame Elijah for Israel’s suffering (18:17)! Not surprisingly, Elijah put blame where blame was due. Ahab’s forsaking the Lord and worshiping Baal was the reason for Israel’s trouble (18:18).

Elijah called Ahab to gather his forces and meet him on Mount Carmel for a demonstration of who the true God was. In the sight of all Israel, Ahab was to bring the 450 prophets of Baal to represent the pagan deity (18:19). He was also to bring the 400 prophets of Asherah, the goddess of fertility. (Jezebel fed these prophets at her table, an evidence of how strongly the monarchy was linked with idolatry.) Elijah was the only prophet who would represent the Lord. Perhaps trusting in numerical superiority, Ahab gathered the prophets of Baal and called the Israelites to Mount Carmel (18:20). Ahab feared the Lord so little that he actually expected the Lord to lose!

Elijah prepared the people for the demonstration of who the true God was. He began by calling upon the people to no longer “falter between two opinions” (1 Kings 18:21). He charged them to worship the true God. They could not serve both Yahweh and Baal, any more than a man can serve both God and riches (Matt. 6:24). The nature of God demands wholehearted worship. The people had no response for Elijah. They were actually confused about who the true God was! Elijah next told the people how the demonstration would proceed. Each side would take one bull and prepare a sacrifice, but would stop short of actually setting the sacrifice on fire (1 Kings 18:23). Elijah would then call on the Lord to set the sacrifice on fire, while the 450 prophets of Baal would call on their gods. (In verse 22, Elijah emphasized that the side of Baal had the greater number.) Whichever god consumed the sacrifice with fire would clearly be the true God (18:24).

The Foolishness of Idolatry (1 Kings 18:25–29)

Baal was put to the test first. From morning until noon, the crowd of prophets called upon their god, the god of storms and lightning, to listen and to light their sacrifice. To get his attention, they prayed throughout the morning and even danced around the altar (1 Kings 18:26). At noon, Elijah began mocking the prophets for their foolishness. He challenged them to cry louder, suggesting that maybe Baal was meditating, busy, on a journey, or sleeping (18:27). The prophets did cry louder and even began cutting themselves until “blood gushed out of them” in order to get Baal’s attention (18:28). The frantic attempts continued throughout the day until the time of the evening sacrifice (18:29). Baal had clearly failed the test. He had no power and no care for the people, even for his own prophets’ blood. The god of rain who had been absent throughout the past three years of drought could not answer their prayer. Baal was revealed to be a disgusting aberration, a god who had none of the qualities of deity. He was meaningless.

The Supremacy of the Lord (1 Kings 18:30–40)

Elijah called the people together to see the supremacy of the Lord. He repaired the altar of the Lord with 12 stones, reminding the people that it was God who had given life to the people of Israel, both the northern and southern kingdoms (1 Kings 18:30–31). After laying first the wood and then the bull on the altar, Elijah commanded that the altar be drenched three times, until both wood and sacrifice were thoroughly soaked (18:33–35). Elijah was anxious for the people to know how excellent his God was!

Elijah simply prayed to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel: “Let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all

these things at Your word. Hear me, O LORD, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again" (18:36–37). Elijah's request, offered according to God's will, was that Israel would know God. He was passionate that Israel glorify God as God deserved.

The God of Israel needs no dancing, shouting, or self-inflicted wounds to hear the prayers of man. He answered Elijah's prayer by sending fire that not only lit the altar, but also completely consumed the animal, wood, stones, dust, and even the water in the trench (1 Kings 18:38). The Lord's answer had the desired effect: "When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, 'The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!'" (18:39). God had glorified Himself. The Israelites knew that God alone is God. Fearing the Lord, the people were anxious to obey Elijah's command and executed the prophets of Baal. The people's hearts were turned to the Lord as Elijah had prayed.

The Lord Sends Rain (1 Kings 18:41–46)

Now that the Lord had been exalted as the God of fire, He would similarly be exalted as the God of rain. When God gave rain to the people and ended the drought, the people would no longer be able to say that Baal had done it. Before the Lord sent rain, Elijah told Ahab to go and celebrate the end of the drought by eating and drinking (1 Kings 18:41). Elijah then ascended Mount Carmel, bowed on the ground, and prayed that God would send rain (James 5:18). After looking six times, Elijah's servant saw evidence that God again would answer prayer, a small cloud coming from the sea (1 Kings 18:43–44). Knowing rain was coming, Elijah sent Ahab away in his chariot (18:44). The story of how God revealed His supremacy over Baal ends dramatically: "The sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain" (18:45). Baal was impotent to send either rain or fire, but the Lord God of Israel had done both. Nothing is beyond His power! He even miraculously enabled Elijah to run before Ahab's chariot (18:46) and thus demonstrate loyalty to the king.

Conclusion

Elijah understood that God alone deserves to be glorified. In great boldness before men and humble prayer before God, Elijah was used by God as God glorified Himself. From drought to rainstorm, God was exalted as supreme in Israel. Like Elijah, every believer should be driven by a passion for the glory of God. Whether in their lives or in the lives of others, believers should strive to see the supremacy of God demonstrated through humble obedience and submission to the God who sends both rain and fire, the one true God.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth"
(Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.

Whom did God make the king of the northern tribes of Israel?

The prophet Ahijah came to Jeroboam, a powerful man in Solomon's labor force, to tell him that God had chosen him to replace the son of Solomon as king over the 10 northern tribes.

What was Jeroboam instructed to do as leader of the 10 northern tribes?

Obey God's commands.

What did God promise if Jeroboam was obedient?

Jeroboam's family would reign as a dynasty over Israel.

Did Jeroboam obey God's instructions and Law?

No. Instead of obeying God's commands, Jeroboam relied upon his own wisdom to secure his kingdom. He presented Israel with two calves of gold and said, "Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!" (1 Kings 12:28).

What was the consequence for Jeroboam's disobedience?

His son became sick.

What other consequences would there be for Jeroboam's disobedience and Israel's idolatry?

Moses had warned the people in Deuteronomy 29:25–28 that if they rejected the Lord's covenant, they would go into exile. God kept His promise. Jeroboam's wicked leadership eventually led to Israel's forced exile from the Promised Land (2 Kings 17).



God Is Supreme

The word *supreme* refers to something that is the greatest, highest, or best in a particular category or with regard to a particular characteristic. Have some fun with the students by testing their knowledge of "est." The biggest mammal, the fastest land animal, the tallest animal, strongest man, etc. The biggest animal is not also the fastest and the tallest. You can normally only be an "est" in one particular way. Imagine someone who is the biggest, fastest, strongest, most intelligent, wisest, and so on. That someone would be our God. He is supreme, unparalleled in all His qualities. He is so much better that we cannot even compare ourselves with Him. He is like nothing else in all of creation. Ask the students to name some of the qualities that make God completely different from any created thing.



Worship from the Heart

Our hearts are the seat of our desires, thoughts, beliefs, and plans. To worship something is to give our hearts to that thing (Ezek. 14:5). Our desires, thoughts, beliefs, and plans are devoted to the objects of our worship. Show the students various pictures and objects representing things that may get the attention of our hearts. Ask them to decide which ones are good things and which are bad things to devote our hearts to—for example, television, toys, games, the Bible, God, church, friends, family, and candy. Israel had been worshiping idols for so long that they had become confused and were no longer sure to whom they should devote their hearts. In today's lesson we will see how God got their attention back on Him.



For Real

There are many things in our lives that are made to look real but really are not. Bring some fake objects into class (plastic plants, plastic fruit, gold plastic, plastic rocks, etc.). How can you tell if something is genuine? You have to put it through some test that will prove its genuineness (biting into it, touching it, knocking on it, etc.). Call up some students to conduct some of these tests on behalf of the class. A shatterproof ruler might provide an adequately dramatic example. Only the genuine product can be bent over double and not shatter. In today's lesson we will be learning about a test that God gave His people so they could know that He was the only genuine God and that all other gods were fakes.



Now That's a Fire

Today's lesson shows how even rocks, damp wood, and dust can be used to make a fire when God is involved. Bring various objects to class and discuss with the students which of them burn and which do not burn. Ask which will still burn after they have been dipped in water. A match can be taken and dipped in water to demonstrate this to the class. Take the objects that definitely do not burn, and put them in a bowl and fill the bowl with water. What would it take to set fire to this collection of objects? In today's lesson we will find out.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done” (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students’ understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Reading of the Text

Read 1 Kings 17:1 and 1 Kings 18:17–46.

Introduction

The Bible says that Ahab, the king of Israel, “did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him” (1 Kings 16:33). He was a wicked man who married a wicked non-Israelite woman. He worshiped the gods that she did and built an altar for the god named Baal. Because Ahab was king, he influenced many people in Israel so that they also worshiped Baal. Of course, this was wicked idolatry. The Lord used Elijah to deal with the people of Israel and show them that He was really God and Baal was not.



Leadoff Questions (LOQs)

LOQ: Whom did King Ahab call to gather at Mount Carmel?

Answer: King Ahab sent a message to the people of Israel to meet at Mount Carmel. He also brought together the prophets of Baal (v. 20; see also v. 19).

LOQ: In verse 21, what was Elijah telling the people of Israel to do?

Answer: Elijah was calling the people of Israel to decide whom they were going to serve. The Israelites had been trying to serve both the Lord and Baal. This was not acceptable to the Lord. The people should decide to worship and follow the Lord alone, or Baal alone, but not both.

LOQ: How did the people respond?

Answer: “The people did not answer him a word.” The people were not ready to follow just the Lord or just Baal.

LOQ: How many prophets did Elijah say were of the Lord, and how many were of Baal?

Answer: First Kings 18:22 says that Elijah was the only prophet of the Lord there, but there were 450 prophets of Baal present.

LOQ: Describe the contest.

Answer: First Kings 18:23 and 24 tell us what the contest was like. Each side would put wood on the altar, sacrifice an ox on top, and then call upon their god to answer and accept the sacrifice by sending fire.

LOQ: What did the people think of Elijah's contest?

Answer: The people answered, "That is a good idea." They were willing to see which god was the more powerful.

LOQ: What did the prophets of Baal do to try to get their god to answer them?

Answer: The prophets of Baal called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us" (18:26). They leaped (did a ceremonial dance) about the altar (18:26), cried out with a loud voice (18:28), cut themselves so that they bled (18:28), raved, and prophesied until the time of the evening sacrifice (3 p.m.; 18:29).

LOQ: Did Baal answer the prophets?

Answer: No! No matter what the prophets of Baal did, Baal did not answer them.

LOQ: What reasons did Elijah suggest for Baal not answering his prophets?

Answer: Elijah suggested that Baal was occupied, gone aside (busy), on a journey, or asleep (18:27). Elijah was making fun of Baal. Elijah knew that Baal did not answer because he did not really exist.

LOQ: Would a real, powerful god be busy or away on a trip or sleeping?

Answer: Of course not! Elijah did something very special to make sure that the people would know how powerful the Lord really is.

LOQ: What did Elijah do?

Answer: In verses 33 to 35, Elijah asked that four buckets of water be poured on the offering and the wood, three times. This was to make sure that the wood would be soaked and difficult to burn. If the Lord was powerful, the water would not be a problem, and all the sacrifice would be burned up by fire.

LOQ: What would it mean if the Lord did send fire down in answer to Elijah's prayer?

Answer: If the Lord answered Elijah's prayer and sent fire to burn up the sacrifice, it meant that He was really the God of Israel, that Elijah was His servant, that Elijah did what he did because the Lord had told him to do so, so that the people would know that the Lord is God, not Baal, and so that some of the people would turn away from Baal and back to the Lord (18:36–37).

LOQ: Did the Lord answer Elijah? What did He do?

Answer: Yes, the Lord did answer Elijah's prayer. Verse 38 says that "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." Nothing was left, not even the stones of the altar.

LOQ: How did the people respond to what the Lord had done?

Answer: Verse 39 says that "when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces, and they said, 'The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God.'" Because of what the Lord had done, the people believed that the Lord was God, not Baal. Then, in obedience to Elijah, the people killed all the false prophets of Baal. Those prophets deserved to die because they were very wicked idolaters, and the Old Testament commanded that any idolater in Israel was to be killed.

Summary

Doing what Elijah said, King Ahab called many people in Israel to gather at Mount Carmel. He called for the prophets of Baal to come, too. When the people were there, Elijah told them that they had to decide whom they would follow, the Lord or Baal. Elijah then suggested that a contest be held to prove who the real God was, the Lord or Baal. When they heard this, the people thought Elijah's idea was good. The prophets of Baal went first. They sacrificed and tried hard to get their god Baal to answer them, but he did not do anything. Elijah made fun of Baal because he knew that there is no God but the Lord. When it was Elijah's turn, he made the test even more difficult by pouring water all over the sacrifice and the wood so that it would be much harder to set on fire. Nothing is too difficult for the Lord. The Lord sent down a great fire, and everything was burned up, even the stones. When the people saw what the Lord had done, they bowed down and said, "The LORD, He is God." They knew that the Lord was really God, not Baal. Then, in obedience to Elijah, the people killed the false prophets because they were wicked idolaters.

Application

God is the one and only true God. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The same God who answered Elijah's prayer and sent fire and rain from heaven is the same God who reigns today. Believers must remember that the God of the Bible is all-powerful and that all those who love and serve Him are under His care. They should tell all who are enemies of God to be warned and afraid of the punishment that will come. The Lord alone deserves all our worship.

Presentation Ideas



A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



What Is Worship?

Ask the students what worship is. In today's lesson they will see two groups of people who worshiped different gods. Elijah worshiped the true God of Israel, and the priests of Baal worshiped Baal. So what is worship? Ask the students for examples. Explain that worship is praising someone or something with our mouths and living reverently for that someone or something. Whom do we admire most? Whom do we want to be most like? God wants us to worship Him alone, for He is supremely worthy. Sometimes we find that we have given worship to things we shouldn't, and we need to confess it to God and ask for His forgiveness. God's people will choose to worship Him.



Ways to Worship God

Ask the students the following questions about worship: How does one worship God? Do we need to have our hands folded and our heads bowed? Explain that that is one way to worship God. But we can also worship God while standing, sitting, or kneeling. What matters to God in our worship is our hearts. In our hearts, do we love and admire God? We can worship God for things we find in the Bible and for His beautiful creation. We can even worship God for giving us a brother or sister. Let's spend some time telling God how great He is.

Praise and Worship

Awesome God

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down

Glorify Thy Name

I Will Call upon the Lord

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

We Will Glorify

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments” (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



Make It Rain

Materials: copies of the “Make It Rain” craft page on blue cardstock, silver glitter, glue, cotton balls

Directions: Give each student a craft sheet, cotton balls, glue, and silver glitter. Instruct the students to glue cotton balls around border of verse. Next, the students should place glue in places where they would like the rain under the clouds. Finally, sprinkle glitter over the glue, and pour the excess back into the container. Allow the picture to dry.



“The Lord Is God” Bookmark

During the lesson, teach this song to the students. The song can be taken home on a bookmark for parents to hear. It can be sung to the tune of “Frere Jacques.”

To create the bookmark, cut along the solid lines and punch a hole at the top. Attach yarn through the hole.

Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping, false god Baal, false god Baal?

Maybe he is sleeping, maybe he is thinking, false god Baal, false god Baal.

Never sleeping. Never sleeping. The Lord is God. The Lord is God.

You sent fire. You sent rain. The Lord is God. The Lord is God.



Mount Carmel Triarama

Materials: brown construction paper cut into 9x9-inch squares, stones, twigs, wooden craft sticks, plastic bulls, colored tissue paper (red, yellow, orange, blue, and gray), round-top wooden clothespins, scraps of cloth, scissors, glue, hot-glue gun, glue stick, crayons (Note: You may want to have the students collect the twigs and stones at home and bring them to class.)

Directions: Give each student a paper square, and demonstrate how to crease it diagonally. Do this twice so that the creases cross in the square’s center. Choose any corner, and cut from the tip to the place where the creases meet. Fold one cut corner on top of the other, and glue them together. This will form a pyramid that,

set up on one side, will serve as the triarama background. Set the pyramid aside to dry. Give each student five craft sticks, and have them break two in half. (You may need to do this for younger students.) Set up a hot-glue center with an adult supervisor using the glue gun. The students should go to the center a few at a time to glue together their altars. The three unbroken craft sticks should be glued side by side to form the top of the altar. The four half-sticks should be glued on as the legs of the altar. Once the altar is assembled, it should be glued to pyramid base. While the students wait for their turn at the glue center, have them write "Mount Carmel" at the top of the construction-paper pyramid and 1 Kings 18:37 on its base. Have them glue 12 small stones along the base of the altar to symbolize the 12 tribes of Israel. They should glue some twigs on top of the altar and then place a bull on top. Model how to make flames from red, orange, and yellow tissue paper, and glue the flames to the right side of the triangle, to show them coming down on the altar from the sky. Next, model how to make rain clouds from gray tissue paper and raindrops from blue tissue paper. These should be glued to the left side of the triangle. The prophet Elijah will be made from a clothespin. Students should use a black marker to draw Elijah's face, and they should dress him using scraps of cloth. They may return to the glue center to glue on the clothing and to glue Elijah next to the altar.

Variation: If you do not have enough materials or time to make one triarama per student, this craft can be done in groups.



"Elijah and the Prophets"

Use this work sheet to reinforce the key truths of today's lesson. The work sheet is located at the back of the lesson.



Journal Page: "Choosing Obedience"

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can complete the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

Coloring Pages

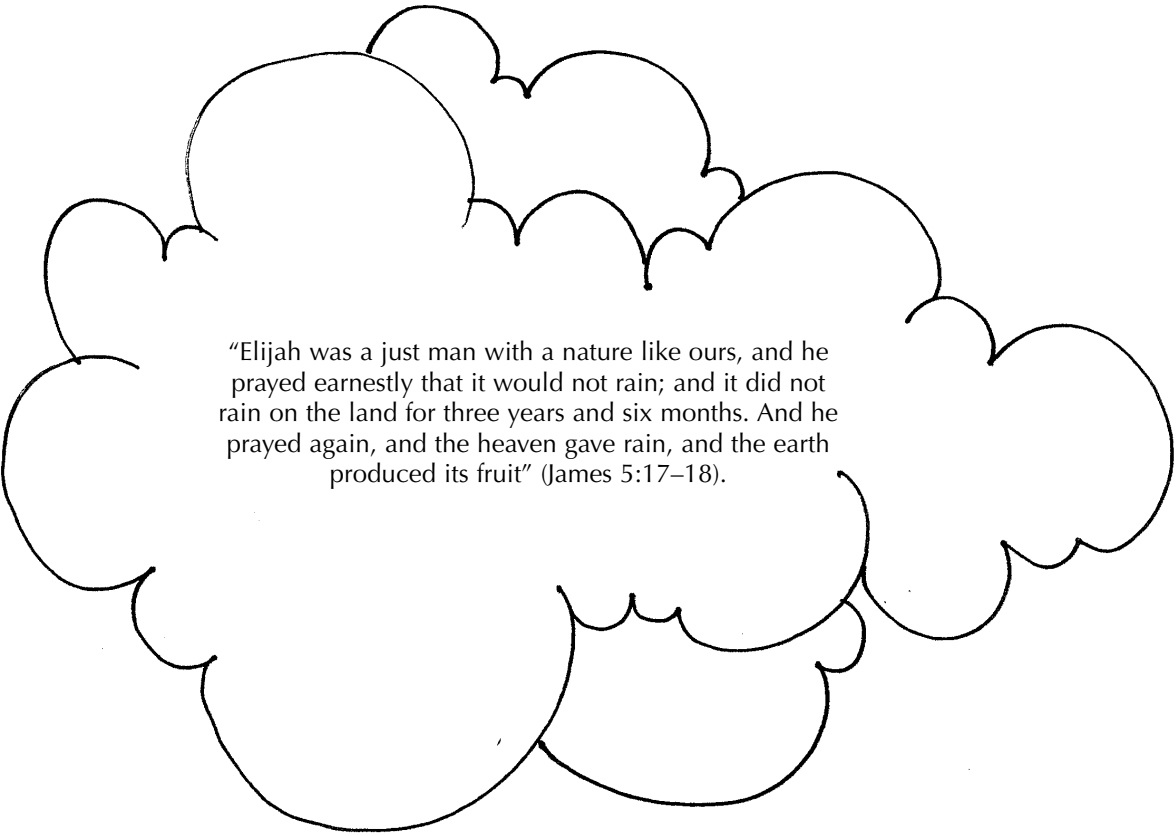
Give each student a copy of the coloring pages at the back of the lesson. students can color the pages in class or at home.



MEMORY VERSE

"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16b).

Make It Rain



“Elijah was a just man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit” (James 5:17–18).

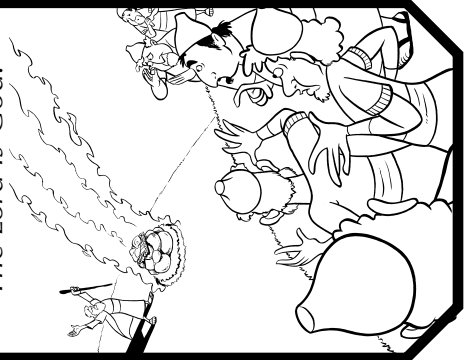
The Lord Is God

The Lord Is God

*(sing to the tune of
"Frere Jacques")*

Are you sleeping?
Are you sleeping?
False god Baal.
False god Baal.
Maybe he is sleeping.
Maybe he is thinking.
False god Baal.
False god Baal.

Never sleeping.
Never sleeping.
The Lord is God.
The Lord is God.
You sent fire.
You sent rain.
The Lord is God.
The Lord is God.



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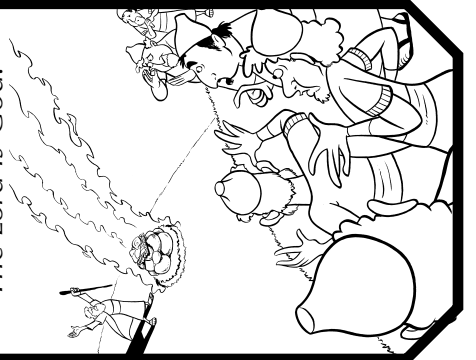


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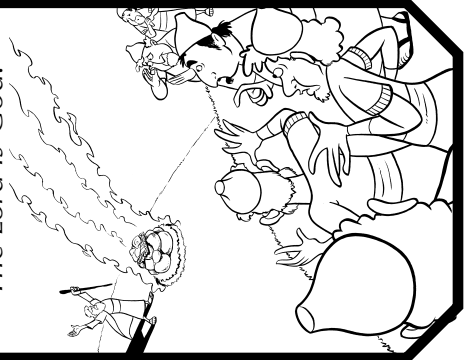


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Elijah

and the
Prophets



1 Kings 17:1; 18:17-46

Name _____

1. Elijah told Ahab that it would not _____ for three years (1 Kings 17:1).
2. God did not send rain on Israel because they had _____ the commandments of the LORD and followed Baal (18:18).
3. How many prophets did Baal have? _____
4. Elijah presented a challenge to Israel so he could prove that _____ was real.
5. The real God would send _____ down to consume the burnt offering.
rain fire snow hail
6. Did Baal answer the people's cries? _____
7. Was the Lord faithful to light Elijah's burnt sacrifice? _____
8. The people shouted, _____ (18:39).

The Lord's Power

"Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again" (1 Kings 18:37).

Have you ever had great thoughts or done grand deeds? Some people have, and as a result, they have been honored in various ways by other people. For example, a street may have been named after them, a statue may have been made of them, or they may have been given an award. Yet, as important as they may have been, God is far greater. He transcends—goes beyond—anything that man can think or do. In today's Bible lesson, Elijah demonstrates to the Israelites that the Lord God is greater than the false god Baal. He shows the Israelites that no god has the Lord's power.

Fill in the blanks below to see the great works of the Lord and the weakness of Baal.

God used only one prophet named _____, but the false god needed _____ false prophets.

Elijah drenched the altar three times with _____, but the false prophets kept their altar dry.

Elijah asked God only once to send fire, but the false prophets cried to their false god from morning to _____.

The false god was not able to answer the false prophets, but God answered _____.

God sent _____ that lit the altar, consuming the animal, wood, stones, dust, and even the water in the trench; Baal _____ not.

Then God ended the drought by sending _____, which Baal could not do.

Do you think Elijah demonstrated God's power so people would think that he was great and name a street after him? He did it for God's glory, so that the Israelites would know that God was the true God and would turn their hearts back to Him.

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Do you think Elijah demonstrated God's power so people would think that he was great and name a street after him? He did it for God's glory, so that the Israelites would know that God was the true God and would turn their hearts back to Him.

We are told in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." So, the next time you have great thoughts or do grand deeds, remember God's glory, as Elijah did.

In the space below, write some choices you can make this week that will show God's glory.

PRAYER

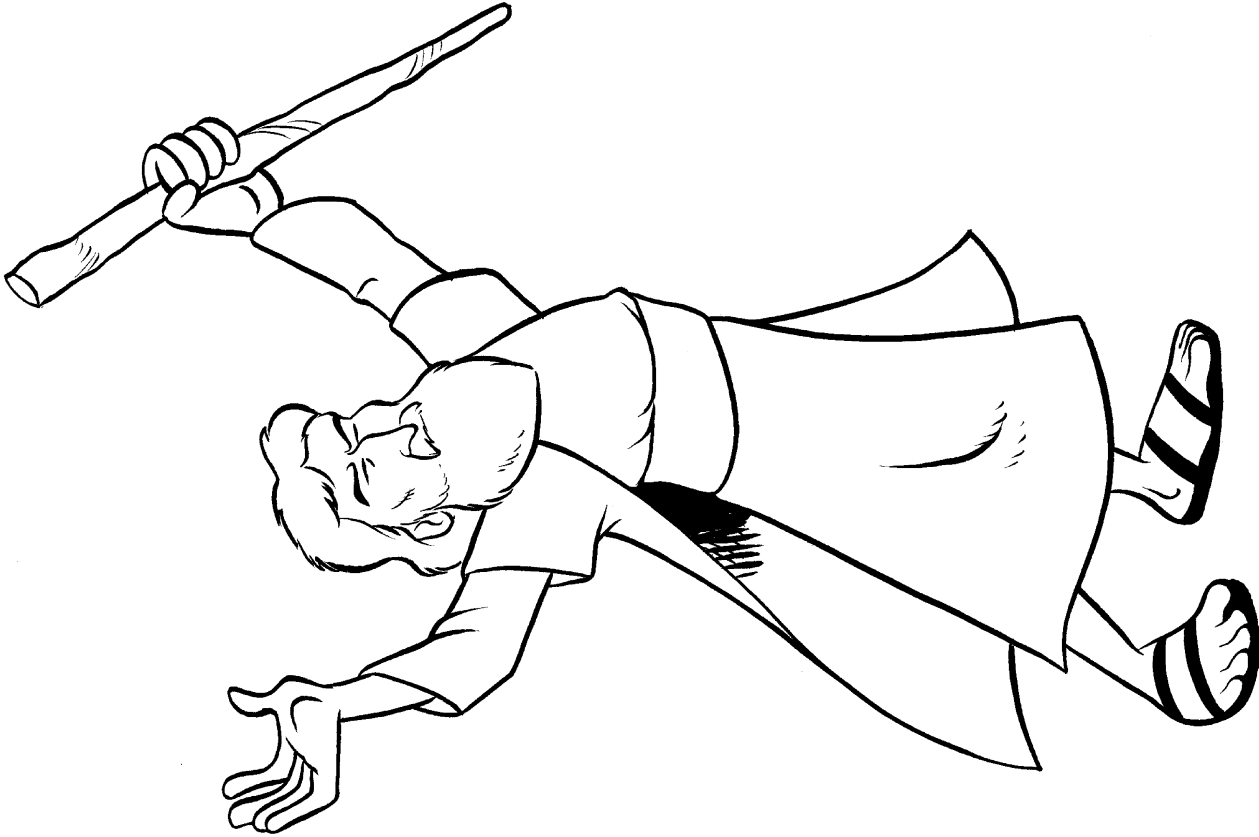
Thank you, Lord, that You know all my thoughts and that You have many thoughts of me. Help me to have a heart that is concerned for Your glory, and help me to live a life that is pleasing to You.

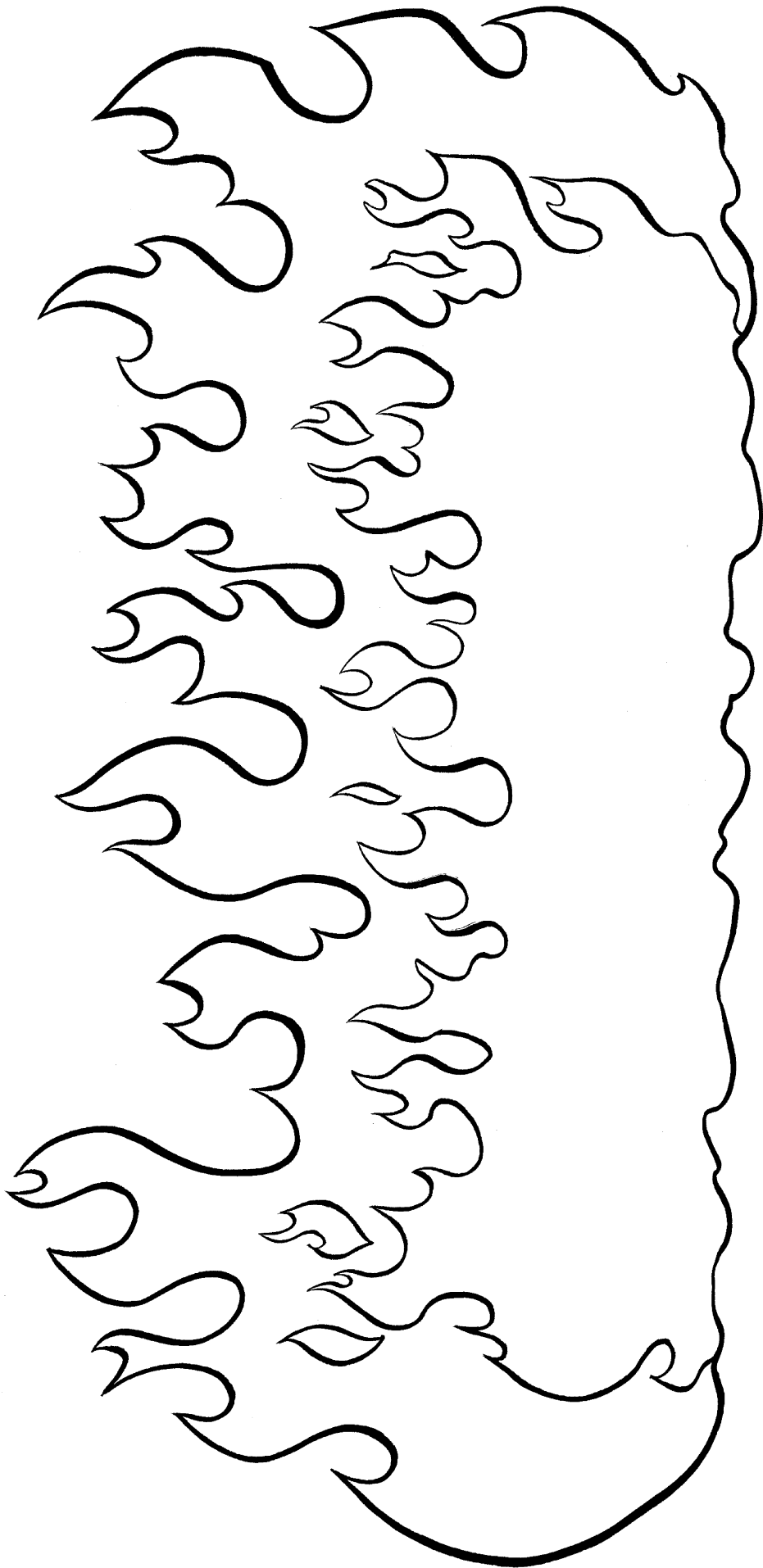
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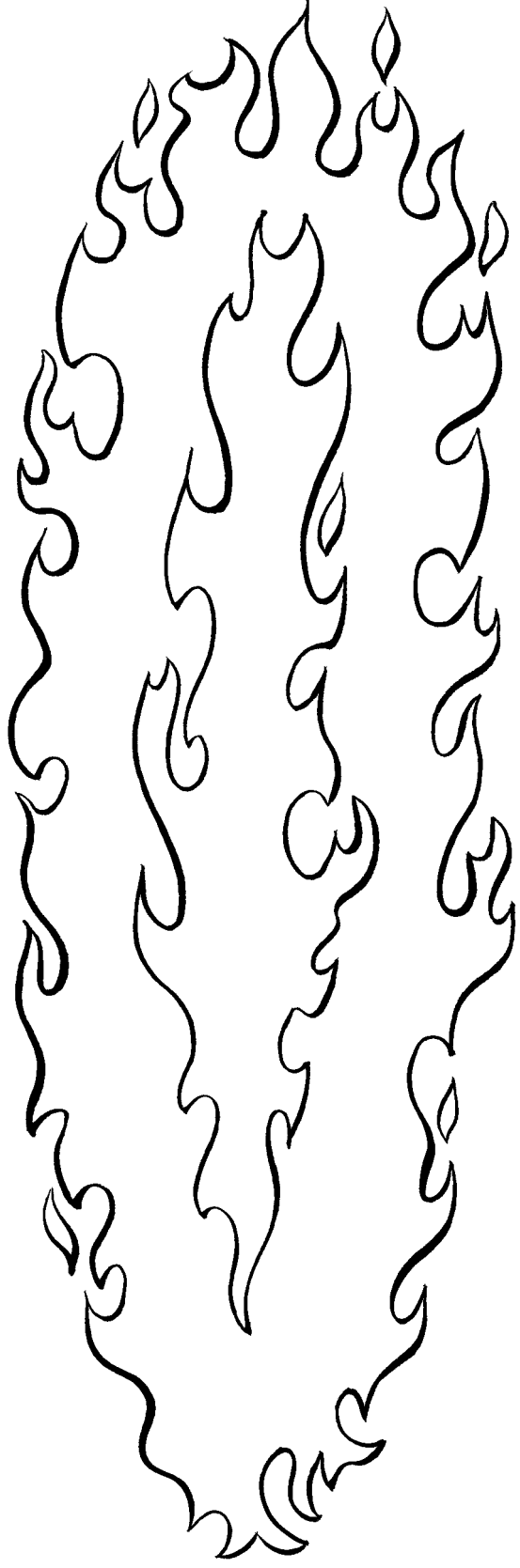
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“As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word” (1 Kings 17:1b).



“And Elijah came to all the people, and said, ‘How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him!’” (1 Kings 18:21a).

