

# 1 KINGS 18 vs 1

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The Bible is so interesting; even the Old Testament. Remember: when reading the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles... we read history and events recorded from the perspective of the 2 tribes of the **Southern Kingdom**, the House of **Judah**;

Prophet Elijah against the priests of Baal,

**<sup>1</sup> And 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 earth.**

**<sup>2</sup> And Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. And there was a severe famine in Samaria.**

**<sup>3</sup> And Ahab called Obadiah, who was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly:**

**<sup>4</sup> for it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took 100 prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)**

**<sup>5</sup> And Ahab said to Obadiah, Go through the land, to all the water fountains, and to all the brooks: perhaps we may find grass to save alive the horses and mules, that we do not lose all the animals.**

**<sup>6</sup> So they divided the land between them to pass through it: Ahab went one way, and Obadiah went another way.**

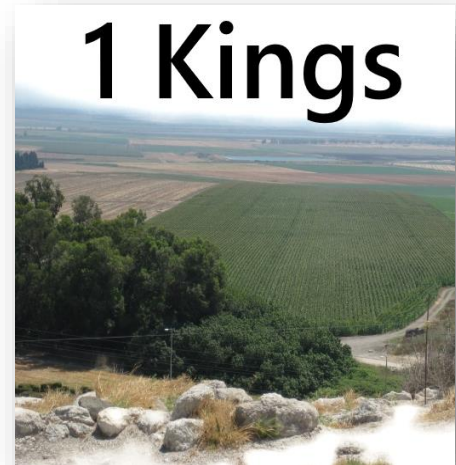
**<sup>7</sup> And as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Is this you my master Elijah?**

**<sup>8</sup> And he answered him, It is I: go, tell your master, Behold, Elijah is here.**

**<sup>9</sup> And he objected saying, What sin did I do, that you will deliver your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?**

**<sup>10</sup> As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom, where my lord has not sent to seek you: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath from each kingdom and nation, that they could not find you.**

**<sup>11</sup> And now you say, Go, tell your master, Behold, Elijah is here.**



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**12 And it will happen, as soon as I leave you, that the Spirit of the LORD will carry you to where I do not know; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will kill me: though I your servant have feared the LORD from my youth.**

**13 Has it not been told my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD, how I hid 100 men of the LORD's prophets by fifties in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?**

**14 And now you say, Go, tell your master, Behold, Elijah is here: and he will kill me here / Elijah knew that King Ahab during the past 6 months remained obdurate and unreformed.**

**15 And Elijah finally was able to answer and said, As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today.**

**16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah.**

**17 And it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, Are you the one who troubles Israel?**

**18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but you, and the house of your father, in that you have abandoned the instruction of the LORD, and you have followed Baalim.**

**19 So now send, and gather to me all Israel to Mount Carmel, the 450 prophets of Baal, and the 400 prophets of the groves, who eat at the table of Jezebel.**

**20 So Ahab sent word to all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together to Mount Carmel / near modern day Haifa.**

**21 And Elijah came to all the people, and said, How long will you halt between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him: but if Baal is, then follow him. But the people did not answer him a word / I'd take bets, the fake prophets knew their gig was finished.**

**22 Then Elijah said to the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but the prophets of Baal are these 450 men.**

**23 So let them give us two oxen; and let them choose one ox for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will prepare the other ox, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:**

**24 and then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God who answers by fire, let him be God.**

**And all the people answered and said, It is good / the proposal in every way appeared good to the people and was received with unanimous approval.**

# 1 KINGS 18 vs 1

**<sup>25</sup> And Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, you choose one ox for yourselves, and prepare it first; for you are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under it.**

**<sup>26</sup> And they took the ox that was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, and no one answered / for hours, starting out slow, they continued invoking their senseless deities; and what was the result? nothing, not even a cricket chirp. And they leaped on the altar that they made.**

**<sup>27</sup> So it finally happened at noon, that Elijah began mocking them, and said, Cry out with a loud voice: for he is a god; either he is occupied, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he's asleep, and must be woke up.**

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

**<sup>29</sup> And it happened, when midday past, they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, yet there was no voice, no answer, nor any deity that paid attention.**

**<sup>30</sup> And 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 was broken down.**

**<sup>31</sup> And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel will be your name:**

**<sup>32</sup> and with the stones he rebuilt the altar in the name of the LORD: / that Jezebel had destroyed and he made a trench around the altar, as large as would hold two measures of seed.**

**<sup>33</sup> And he put the wood in order, and cut the ox in pieces, and laid it on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt offering, and on the wood.**

**<sup>34</sup> 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.**

**<sup>35</sup> And the water overflowed all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water.**

**<sup>36</sup> And it happened at the time of the evening sacrifice / 3 or 4 hours later, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and I have done all this according to Your word.**

**<sup>37</sup> Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that these people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their heart back again.**

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<sup>38</sup> 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.

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

<sup>40</sup> Then Elijah said to them, Seize the prophets of Baal; do not let one of them escape. So they seized them: and Elijah took them down to the brook Kishon, and killed them there.

<sup>41</sup> Now Elijah said to Ahab, Get up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of roaring showers.

<sup>42</sup> So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went to the top of Carmel; and he crouched down on the earth, and put his face between his knees,

<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 seven more times he said, Go again.

<sup>44</sup> And it happened the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there arises a small cloud from the sea, as big as my hand. And he said, Go up, say to Ahab, Prepare your chariot, and go down that the heavy storm does not stop you.

<sup>45</sup> And in the meantime it happened, that the sky grew black with clouds and violent wind, and there was a great storm. And Ahab rode fast, and went to Jezreel.

<sup>46</sup> And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he buckled up his loins, and outran Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

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