
Standing In The Gap
"Experiencing God"
1 Kings 18

05-05-24

Introduction: We have spent several weeks tracing the life and times of Elijah.

- We've seen God's call and Elijah's purpose.
- We've seen God stretch Elijah spiritually.
- 1. All of this was preparatory to the challenge he will face in today's narrative.
- 2. In today's text we see the ultimate contest for the heart of Israel.
- 3. For the past 60 plus years, the North has worshipped golden calves, Baals, and Asherahs.
- 4. The nation is coming off a 3½ year drought that Elijah is blamed for.
- 5. In this context, God directs Elijah to reveal himself to Ahab and challenge his prophets to a contest to determine who will be the God of Israel.
- 6. It is the high point of Elijah's ministry.

I. The Controversy

- A. Ahab's Perspective
- B. God's Perspective

II. The Contest

- A. The Contestants
- B. The Rules

C. The Objective

III. The Conclusion

- A. The Silence Of Baal
- B. The Power Of God
- C. The Purging Of Evil

Conclusion: God is everywhere all the time.

- 1. God is constantly at work.
- 2. God is constantly speaking.
- 3. Have you been experiencing Him?
- 4. God hadn't changed, but Israel had.
- 5. God wants you to experience Him in the same way Israel did on Mt. Carmel.
- 6. Open your eyes, open your ears, open your heart.
- 7. You'll be amazed at what He does when you pay attention!