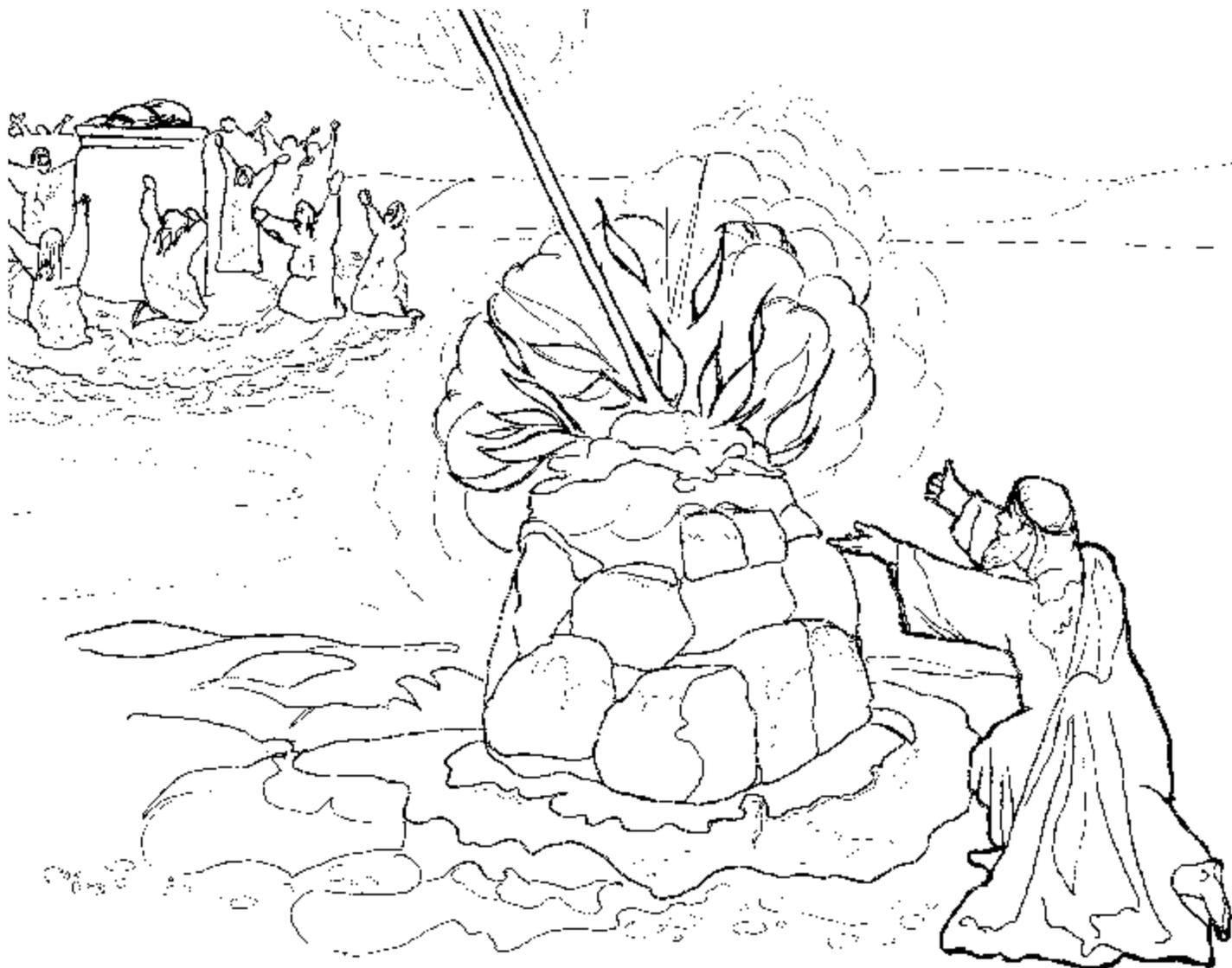


# Elijah & the Prophets of Baal

1 Kings 18



God, through Elijah, led Israel to choose the LORD not Baal.



## The Story

The land of Israel had no rain for three and a half years. This was a trouble given to them from God because King Ahab and his family did not love the true God, but worshiped false gods.

After the three years had passed God told Elijah to go to King Ahab and tell him the rain would come on the earth and plants for food would again grow.

King Ahab blamed the trouble of no rain on Elijah.

Elijah told King Ahab to gather all of Israel to meet on Mount Carmel. The false prophets were to come also. There were 850 false prophets of the gods Baal and Asherah. These false prophets were helped by Queen Jezebel, King Ahab's wife.

All the children of Israel and the many false prophets gathered together on Mount Carmel. Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you worship two gods? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal is god, follow him."

But the people did not answer.

Then Elijah said to the people, "I am the only prophet of the LORD left. There are 850 prophets of Baal and Asherah. We will both make an altar, lay wood on it and offer a bull. But neither of us will put fire on the offering. Then the prophets of Baal will call on their god and I will pray to the LORD. The God who answers by sending fire is the true God."

So all the people said, "It is a good thing to do."

Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare it first, for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it."

So they took the bull which 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 answer. Then they leaped about the altar.

At noon Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Cry louder he is thinking, or busy, or gone away, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened."

So they cried louder and cut themselves with knives until the blood gushed out on them. They did this until evening but no one paid attention.

Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me."

So all the people came near to him and he repaired the altar of the LORD. Elijah took 12 stones, according to the number of the 12 tribes of Jacob, and built an altar to the LORD. He made a very large trench around the altar, put on the wood, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. Then Elijah had 4 water pots filled with water. Those 4 water pots were poured over the offering, wood and altar. Then he had the 4 filled again a second time. Also a third time the 4 pots were filled with water and poured on the sacrifice. So the water ran all around the altar and filled the trench with water.

At the time of the evening sacrifice Elijah prayed to God saying, "LORD 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, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You

have turned their hearts back to You again."

Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up completely the sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.

Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"

Elijah told the people to kill the false prophets of Baal and Asherah and they did.

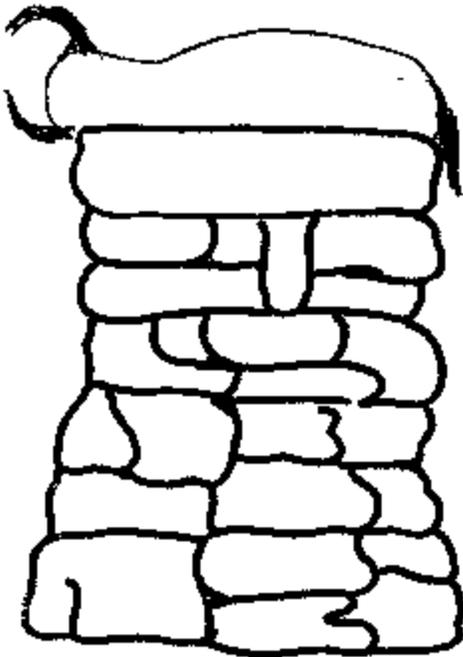
**Activity One** - Choose the correct letter from the box to finish the riddles. Your teacher will help you read the sentences.

A B E L F

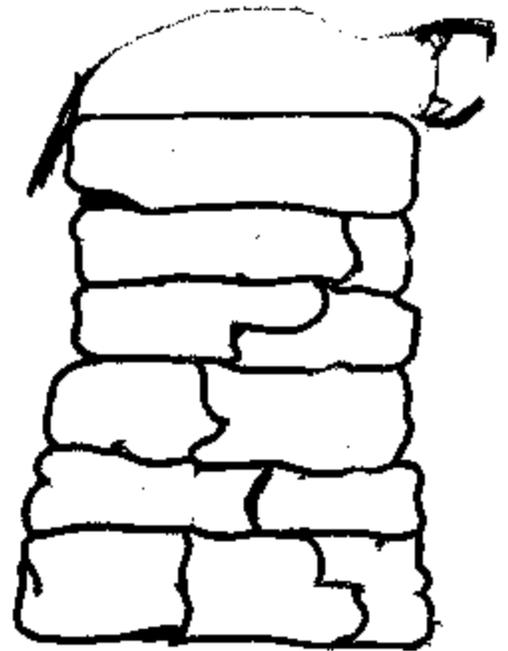
1. I am God's prophet. \_\_\_\_lijah
2. I am the King of Israel. \_\_\_\_hab
3. I am the false god. \_\_\_\_aal
4. I came down from heaven and burned up the altar. \_\_\_\_ire
5. I am the true God. \_\_\_\_ORD

## Activity Two - Follow the directions below.

1. First, color red around the altar of Baal to show how the false prophets cut themselves and bled in hopes their god would hear them.
2. Second, color blue over the altar of the LORD to show the water that was poured on it. Be sure to put blue around the bottom of the altar also to show the big puddle that was made.
3. Third, use red and yellow colors to show fire coming from the sky on to the altar of the LORD. Be sure to color over the whole altar to show how it was completely burned up, even the water puddle. Look at the picture on page 1 if you need help.



**Baal's Altar**



**The LORD's Altar**

**God, through the Holy Spirit in the Word, has led us to Jesus.**

## Passages

Matthew 4:10 - 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'

The First Commandment - Sydow Catechism ©2000

You shall have no other gods.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.

## Hymn - TLH #396 v. 1, 6

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink  
Tho' pressed by many a foe;  
That will not tremble on the brink  
Of poverty or woe.

Lord, give us such a faith as this;  
And then, whate'er may come,  
We'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss  
Of an eternal home.

## Prayer

Dear Father in heaven,  
Thank You for the love You have shown me in so many ways. You have given me saving faith in Jesus Christ. Give me Your Holy Spirit so that I will want to share with others that wonderful message of salvation through Jesus. Amen.