1 KINGS 18:36-37 – ELIJAH'S MOUNT CARMEL VICTORY!

1/08/19 CCCM Murrieta Missions Conf – P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS! -Thomas Chisholm - William Runyan - sung by Tom Fettke

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Lord, unto me!

<u>1 Kings 18– "Elijah's Message to Ahab and Mount Carmel Victory!</u>

Chapter 17 was God's commandment to Elijah to "Go Hide Yourself"! Chapter 18 is His commandment to Elijah to "Go Show Yourself"! Having been trained and tested in private, the prophet is now ready for his public ministry, so God commands him to face wicked King Ahab (see *1Ki_16:33*). We must admire Elijah's patience as he waited three years to preach one sermon.



Elijah Confronts Ahab (1 Kings 18:17-40)

1Ki 18:17 Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

1Ki 18:18 And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and have followed the Baals.

1Ki 18:19 Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

The Prophets of Baal (god of weather!) Defeated

1Ki 18:20 So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel.

1Ki 18:21 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." But the people answered him not a word.

1Ki 18:22 Then Elijah said to the people, ''I alone am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

1Ki 18:23 Therefore let them give us two bulls; and <u>let them choose one bull for themselves</u>, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it.

1Ki 18:24 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, He is God." So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken."

1Ki 18:25 Now 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."

1Ki 18:26 So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But there was no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made.

1Ki 18:27 And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened."

1Ki 18:28 So they <u>cried aloud, and cut themselves,</u> as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them.

1Ki 18:29 And when midday was past, they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice. But there

- was <u>no</u> voice; <u>no</u> one answered, <u>no</u> one paid attention.
- 1Ki 18:30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And <u>he repaired the altar of the LORD</u> that was broken down.
- 1Ki 18:31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name."
- 1Ki 18:32 Then with the stones <u>he built an altar in the name of the LORD</u>; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed.
- 1Ki 18:33 And he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood, and said, "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood."
- 1Ki 18:34 Then 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.
- 1Ki 18:35 So the water ran all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water.
- 1Ki 18:36 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 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.
- 1Ki 18:37 <u>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."</u>
- 1Ki 18:38 Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.
- 1Ki 18:39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"
- 1Ki 18:40 And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there.
 - Deu 13:5 But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.
 - **Deu 18:20** But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'

SUMMARY:

- Trying to serve two gods, the Israelites were not serving either one and were miserable! Are we?
- "I alone" What an amazing stand by Elijah "alone", a solo voice in the wilderness of the world!
- Notice the shortness of Elijah's prayer! That he is God's servant! That he has done all things at His Word!
- It's not the prayer's length but it's the one who has a servant's heart and who stands on His Word!
- What great faith Elijah has in his God to do the supernatural in an impossible situation!
- How great is our faith?
- What a wonderful demonstration of faith in our God even in situations of the concentration of the enemy's resistance and power!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY - F. Crosby - Maranatha Praise Band

- 1. To God be the glory, great things He has done; So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, And opened the life gate that all may go in.
 - Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, And give Him the glory, great things He has done.
- 2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, To every believer the promise of God; The vilest offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)
- 3. Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; But purer, and higher, and greater will be Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

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