Video: biblestoriesonline.com/stories/ Elijah-Puts-It-All-On-The-Line (10:09) from BibleStoriesOnline.com



Lesson 15: ELIJAH'S CONTEST – GOD vs. BAAL 1st KINGS 18:1-40



The Bible says that the famine in Israel had gone on for 3 ½ long years. Ahab and Jezebel were just as bad as ever. They tried to hunt down Elijah. And Jezebel had tried to kill all of God's prophets.

Elijah went back to see King Ahab. When Ahab saw Elijah in the distance, he shouted, "Hey, is it really you — the trouble-maker of Israel?" But Elijah replied, "Israel's trouble isn't my fault. It's your fault — because you have stopped obeying the one true God and are following those falsegod Baals instead."





Then Elijah said, "Tell all the people to come to Mount Carmel. Tell the false prophets of Baal to come too."

Elijah stood up in front of all the people, and said, "How long are you going to waver back and forth? If YAHWEH is the one true God, then follow Him, but if Baal is, then follow him!"





Elijah said, "We will see who is the One True God." Elijah told the prophets of Baal, "Put your sacrifice on an altar. But don't light the fire yourselves. Call out to your god and have him light your fire for you."



They set up their offering. For hours and hours, the Baal prophets cried out, "O Baal! Light this fire!" They ran and danced and jumped around the altar they had made. They thought if they could just yell louder or jump higher or be crazier that Baal might actually answer them. But, no fire.

After many hours, Elijah started to make fun of the prophets of the false-god Baal. He said, "Try yelling louder! Don't stop. After all, he is a real god, right? So maybe he's deep in thought. Or maybe he's going to the bathroom. Or perhaps he went on a trip and won't be back for a while. Oh, I know, I bet he's just asleep and needs you to wake him up..." But nothing happened.





Now it was Elijah's turn. He called to the people, "Come on over to me." So, all the people came in close to watch. Elijah took 12 stones and built an altar. Then, around the new altar Elijah dug a huge trench. Then he put the wood and the cow sacrifice on the altar.

Then he had 12 buckets of water poured all over the sacrifice. There was so much water that it soaked the sacrifice and the wood. Water rolled down the sides of the altar and completely filled up the big trench around the altar.





Then Elijah stepped toward the soaking wet altar and prayed calmly, "O Lord, God prove to these people today that You are the One and Only True God. Send fire!"

Fire from Yahweh fell down from Heaven. That fire was so big and so hot that it COMPLETELY burned up the wood, cow, rocks, dirt and ALL the water that was on the altar and down in the trench!

When all the people saw what had happened, they threw themselves down with their faces on the ground. They said, "The Lord, Yahweh is the Real God!" "Now grab those prophets of Baal," Elijah called, "and don't let even one escape." So, they did away with every last one of those so-called prophets of Baal.



We should trust and follow the One True God!

PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY



Picture from Gospel Project

COPY THE WORDS:

ELIJAH _	
AHAB	
BAAL	
PRAY	

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY ELIJAH & PROPHETS OF BAAL WORD SEARCH

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WORD BANK

AHAB ELIJAH ASHERAH FIRE BAAL ISRAEL BULLS JEZEBE

JEZEBEL WATER MOUNT CARMEL PROPHETS RAIN SACRIFICE

CONSUMED





What do you learn about God?
What do you learn
about prayer?

LORD