**Old Testaments Characters**

***ELIJAH: Knowing God’s Power***

***1 Kings 18:16-40***

February 16, 2022

***Introduction:*** *Imagine yourself living in a country where everyone is following other gods or religions. There are no churches, no Bibles studies, no fellowship with other believers and no Christian literature. As far as you know, you are the only Christian in the land. How would you respond?*

*The prophet Elijah faced enormous odds. Israel had abandoned the Lord for another god, Baal. They had rejected Elijah in favor of the 450 prophets of Baal. Yet, despite these odds, Elijah challenges Baal and his prophets to a contest with God. Read 1 Kings 18:16-40*

1. What do you learn about Elijah in this text?
2. Why do you think Ahab agrees to a contest in verse 10?
3. What is Elijah’s challenge to the people of Israel (vv.20-21)?
4. Israel was and agrarian society depending on rain for its survival. Baal was the god who supposedly control the weather. How does this help to explain why it was so difficult for the Israelites to completely abandon Baal and thrust solely in God?
5. Describe the conditions of the contest on Mount Carmel (vv.22-26)
6. What is pathetic about the frenzied activities of Baal’s prophets and their taunts of Elijah (vv.26-29)?
7. What do Elijah’s actions indicate about his knowledge of God’s reality and power (vv.30-37)?
8. Summarize the dramatic outcome of the contest between Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (vv.38-10)

**For Reflection**:

* In what ways are you or the people around you wavering between two gods?
* What are the “Mount Carmel” situations you face? (For example, at work, school, home/family, neighborhood, or community)
* How can you, like Elijah, rely on God’s power in that situation? What is you part and what is God’s part?

**Now or Later:** Make a list of every situation where you feel weak and helpless today? Then read **2 Corinthians 12:7-10** for further insight into how God’s power can flow through you/us.

**Prayer and Praise:** Spend time in prayer committing your situation(s) into God’s powerful care. Then praise God for the VICTORY!

**On Your own**: February is Black History Month. How will you celebrate?

Discover something new you did not know about Black History

**Next Study: Achan: Sin in the Community - Joshua 7**