

Message Notes for 4-26-20
If The LORD is God . . .
1 Kings 18

◆ There is nothing more essential than a _____
_____ with the true and living God!

Exodus 20:3-6 (NIV) ³ "You shall have no other gods before me.
⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in
heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.
⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the
LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the
sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who
hate me,
⁶ but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love
me and keep my commandments.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NIV) ⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God,
the LORD is one.
⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your
soul and with all your strength.

Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV) ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your
God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your
mind.'

³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.

³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two
commandments."

• Putting something in the place of God in our lives is
_____ — it is _____

I. False gods _____ what only the true God

• God was making Elijah into the _____
_____ that he wanted him to be.

• The fastest way to become who and what God wants you to
be is to _____

1 Kings 18:1 *After a long time, in the third year, the word of the
Lord came to Elijah: "Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will
send rain on the land."*

1 Kings 18:16-17 *So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him,
and Ahab went to meet Elijah. [17] When he saw Elijah, he said to
him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?"*

• Ahab was living in _____

1 Kings 18:18

*"I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you
and your father's family have. You have abandoned the Lord's
commands and have followed the Baals.*

• _____ always causes _____

• Monotheism - the belief that there is _____

• Polytheism - the belief that there are _____

• While we say that we believe in one God – many of us
_____ polytheistic lives.

FALSE GODS WE ARE TEMPTED TO TRUST IN:

1. _____

2. _____

2 Tim. 3:1-4 *But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last
days. [2] People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money,
boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful,
unholy, [3] without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without
self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, [4] treacherous, rash,
conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—*

3 _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

• An idol or false god is _____ that we _____ to the place that _____ should have in our lives.

• God calls idolatry _____

7. _____

8. _____

1 Kings 18:19 *Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."*

1 Kings 18:20-21

So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. [21] Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

But the people said nothing.

II. It is time to _____!

If the LORD is God _____!

Exodus 32:26 (NIV) ²⁶ *So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Whoever is for the LORD, come to me." And all the Levites rallied to him.*

Joshua 24:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ *But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."*

1 Kings 18:22-24 *Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the Lord's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. [23] Get two bulls for us. Let them choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. [24] Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire--he is God."*

Then all the people said, "What you say is good."

1 Kings 18:25-28 *Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." [26] So they took the bull given them and prepared it.*

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

[27] At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." [28] So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed.

• Faith is only as _____ as the _____ of your _____

1 Kings 18:29-40 *Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.*

[30] Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which was in ruins. [31] Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel."

• God _____!

[32] With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed.

[33] He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

[34] "Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time.

[35] The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

[36] At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. [37] Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

[38] Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

[39] When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The Lord--he is God! The Lord--he is God!"

[40] Then Elijah commanded them, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away!" They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there.

III. _____ with any false Gods in your life today

- What is it that gives me a sense of _____ and _____ in my life?
- What makes me _____?
- _____ do I _____ for my life?
- _____ is the _____ _____ can bring real and lasting blessing into my life. So, I am _____!