

Mount Carmel
Elijah's Bold Faith
(1 Kings 18:1-40)

~ INTRO ~

A FEW FACTS

- 1) Carmel – Means vineyard or garden of God.
- 2) Mount Carmel is symbolic of beauty...
 “Your head is as majestic as Mount Carmel...”
 (Song of Solomon 7:5) NLT
- 3) The fertility of this land was God’s blessing on His people...
 - AND... it was realized in the abundance of food.

HOWEVER...

- About 100-years before Elijah’s great show down – right here.
 - King Solomon opened the flood gates to false worship...
 - By marrying many foreign wives.

READ (1 Kings 11:1-4 & 9 & 33) NLT

SO...

- Mt. Carmel became a *high place* for Baal & Asherah worship.

AND ULTIMATELY IT LED TO...

- A divided Israel.
 - The Northern Kingdom was ruled by **Jeroboam** (10-tribes)...
 - And the Southern Kingdom ruled by **Rehoboam** (2-tribes).

***Many times we hear more about this in Tel Dan.**

FOR NOW...

- Just know that Baal & Asherah were associated with...
 - The gods of weather.
 - Which is why God sent the drought on the land.
- God was showing that only He was the true God who could help!

THE PROPHET ELIJAH HAD A SHOW DOWN... RIGHT HERE...

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- With the prophets of Baal in (1 Kings 18:25-29) NLT
 - And he mocks their religious efforts.

ELIJAH...

- Told the Israelites to bring...
 - What they were lacking – WATER because of the drought.
 - And in faith Elijah calls on God who immediately answered
 - And his sacrifice was torched / accepted by God.
 - (1 Kings 18:36-39) NLT

SO... THIS PLACE...

- Is more than just a historical site to see...
 - It's a place to stir up **bold faith** to trust God!

~ SPIRITUAL LESSONS ~

- 1) God is jealous for us... NOT of us!
 - And He will do what it takes to get our attention.

“You must worship no other gods, for the LORD, whose very name is Jealous, is a God who is jealous about His relationship with you.” (Ex. 34:14) NLT

- 2) God is the source of all good things...

“... don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. Whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father...” (James 1:16-17) NLT

- 3) God never naps... and we can trust Him with all our needs.
 - Elijah mocked the prophesy of Baal that their god was daydreaming, going to the bathroom, on a trip, OR sleeping.

“Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He's done.” (Phil. 4:6b) NLT

~ IN CLOSING ~

HERE'S THE BIG IDEA...

Elijah called the people of Israel...

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- Who were to be governed by God...
 - To get serious and make an ALL-IN commitment.

“How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two options? If the LORD is God, follow Him! But, if Baal is God, then follow him! However, the people were completely silent.” (1 Kings 18:21) NLT