

“A Battle of 'Prophets'”

1 Kings 18:17-24

Introduction

- I. The Old Testament is filled with great examples of men of old.
- II. One such man was the prophet Elijah.
- III. Elijah's confrontation with the “prophets” of Baal is an encouraging and strengthening account.

Discussion

- I. Sometimes the innocent are falsely accused (1 Kings 18:17-18).
 - A. Persecution will come from those who are living falsely (Gal. 4:29).
 - B. There are those who hate the light (John 3:19-21).
 - C. The actual troublemakers at that time were Ahab and others.
- II. There comes a time when one must decide (1 Kings 18:21).
 - A. Jesus taught such (Matt. 6:24).
 - B. Joshua taught such (Josh. 24:15).
- III. Elijah showed the nonsense of the false prophets and Baal (1 Kings 18:22-29).
 - A. We must expose the frauds of this world (1 John 4:1; 1 Thess. 5:21).
 - B. Those who teach error should not be allowed an audience (Gal. 2:3-5).
- IV. We must have faith in the power of God (1 Kings 18:30-39).
 - A. For us, God's power is the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:16).
 - B. God's Word does not return void (Isa. 55:11).
 - C. Do we have confidence in the power of God like Elijah did?
- V. God's punishment is strong (1 Kings 18:40).
 - A. False prophets will be punished (2 Pet. 2:1-3).
 - B. Remember the statements of the writer of Hebrews (Heb. 10:31; 12:29).
 - C. Those in Hell will be away from God (2 Thess. 1:9; Rev. 21:8).

Conclusion

- I. Elijah demonstrated great faith in the power of God.
- II. We should strive to be just as brave and willing to fight the good fight of faith (2 Tim. 4:6-8).