

RCMI L-Path Teaching

April 18, 2021

TITLE: DON'T MISS OUT ON BEING ALL OUT...FOR GOD!

TEXT: 1 Kings 18: 17-39, others as specified

Big Idea: If Jesus Christ is our One True God, we must be totally committed to Him.

Introduction:

- In our Old Testament story today, Israel is at a place they have to make a choice in regards to God—they've been going on without making one; **to not make a decision is in itself a decision.**
- **All humans are worshippers.** We all find something to which we assign ultimate worth; something that defines us; something without which we could not be happy and life would not be worth living.
- An idol is something that has taken on **ultimate worth** for you. You couldn't imagine **life being good without** it. The idol, **instead of God**, becomes your primary **security; fulfillment; or identity.**

I. THE DILEMMA OF RUINOUS COMPROMISE [vv.18, 21-24]

A. THE CALAMITY

- These people of Israel had fallen a long way from the nation that had entered and conquered Canaan hundreds of years before. Now they are a politically divided and apostate nation.
- Can we be honest and say that the same is true for the church at the end of the 20th century? Whether we like to admit it or not, the present-day church is in the midst of apostasy and waywardness.

B. THE COMPROMISE

- This contest is not about defeating the prophets of Baal, it is about turning back to God. Isn't Elijah's challenge what our nation world needs to hear today! **"How long will you KEEP JUMPING FROM ONE SIDE TO THE OTHER?" Indecision is a decision.**
- The response is sobering: **"But the people said nothing."** Of all the things that plague modern Christianity perhaps this is the greatest: **Spiritual indecision.** The inability of the people of God to make up our minds.

- C. **THE CHALLENGE** [vv. 22-24, Elijah challenged them to a contest in order to find out who the true God is and the people agreed.]

DISCUSSION: If you were to be asked, where are you standing spiritually: Opposite Side/ Middle/ or God Side? What areas in your life are you having difficulty committing to God? SHARE.

II. THE DEMONSTRATION OF RIGHTEOUS CONFIDENCE [vv.25-38]

A. THE CONTEST.

- The prophets of Baal go first. As the prophets of Baal are dancing and slashing and carrying on but at the end of 1 Kings 18:29 is succinct. **No response. No answer.**
- Now they come together to witness the repair of the long neglected altar. Elijah is re-instituting the true worship of God Almighty.
- **What altars need to be repaired in your life?** In order to go back to the Lord, rebuild the altars, re-introduce the spiritual disciplines leading to wholeness, read your Bible, pray, re-commit

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yourself to your church family. Are you tired of a half way relationship with Christ? Rebuild the altars, spend time with the Lord.

- B. **The PRAYER:** The Baal prophets had prayed at least 6 hours and nothing had happened. Elijah stepped up to his altar and prayed a 63 word prayer. [vv.36-37]

Elijah prays for a spiritual awakening:

- To prove to the people that the LORD is the One True God.
- To prove to the people that Elijah is God's prophet and doing His will.
- In order to turn back the hearts of the people toward God.

C. **The PROOF.** 1 Kings 18:38

- God will honor that person who is sold out to His will! If you live by faith you need never fear the Lord letting you down! He will always come through for you!
- We must never underestimate the power of a totally dedicated life! James 5:16b-17

DISCUSSION: Are you willing to stand in the gap and be like the Elijah in this generation? If yes, how will you demonstrate it? SHARE.

III. THE DECISION OF RENEWED COMMITMENT [v.39]

- A. **The RESPONSE.** This is what we as a Church are waiting for people in our community to do: **turn back to God, seek his voice, follow after Him!**
- B. **The REFLECTION.** Turn your hearts to Jesus and commit to Him wholeheartedly!

"Jesus is the only God that if you find him, will satisfy you; and, if you fail Him, will forgive you." – Tim
"Si Jesus ang nag-iisang Diyos na kung mahahanap mo Siya, ay masisiyahan ka; at kung nabigo mo Siya, patatawarin ka Niya." - Tim

CHALLENGE: "The only thing you'll find in the middle of the road are dead animals and compromising Christians!"

Main Lesson: If Jesus Christ is your One True God, you must be totally committed to Him!

DISCUSSION: The response starts from us. Are you willing to turn your heart to God and fully commit to Him? SHARE.

APPLICATION: Share practical applications on how you will fully commit to the Lord. Make a list and give it to your Cell Leader. [Cell Leaders to monitor progress.]