

THE POWER OF AN OBEDIENT LIFE:
Living a Life of Conviction—Part 2
(1 Kings 18:22-38)

I. You can live a life of conviction only when you are totally COMMITTED to the PERSON of God!

“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. So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. 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.” 1 Kings 18:19-21 (NIV)

II. You can live a life of conviction only when you have total _____ in the _____ of God!

Then Elijah said to them, “I am the only one of the Lord’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. 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. 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.” 1 Kings 18:22-24 (NIV)

The question of the hour is not, “Do you believe in God?” but “_____ do you believe in God?”

*“Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you!”
Jeremiah 32:17 (NIV)*

*“I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?
Jeremiah 32:27 (NIV)*

How much did Elijah believe in God?”

1. He believed in God when he was _____ !
2. He believed in God when he was in _____ !
3. He believed in God when Baal seemed to be the _____ !

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.” So they took the bull given to 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. 1 Kings 18:25-26 (NIV)

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.” 1 Kings 18:27 (NIV)

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. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob. . . 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. He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood.” 1 Kings 18:30-33a (NIV)

Then he said to them, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.” Do it again,” he said, and they did it again. “Do it a third time,” he ordered. And they did it the third time. The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. 1 Kings 18:33b-35 (NIV)

At the time of the 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. 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.” 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. 1 Kings 18:36-38 (NIV)