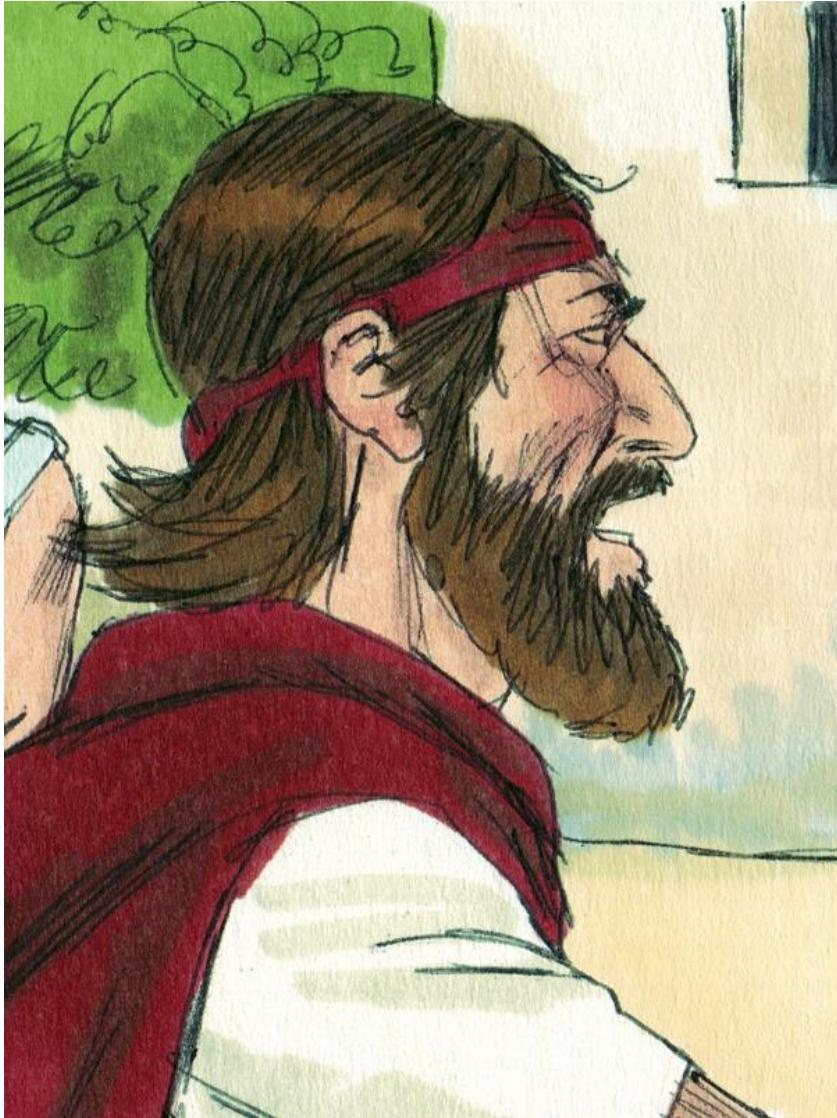


Elijah and the Contest at Mount Carmel

**(God uses Elijah to show that He is the true God and
that the false god, Baal, has no power.)**

1 Kings 18

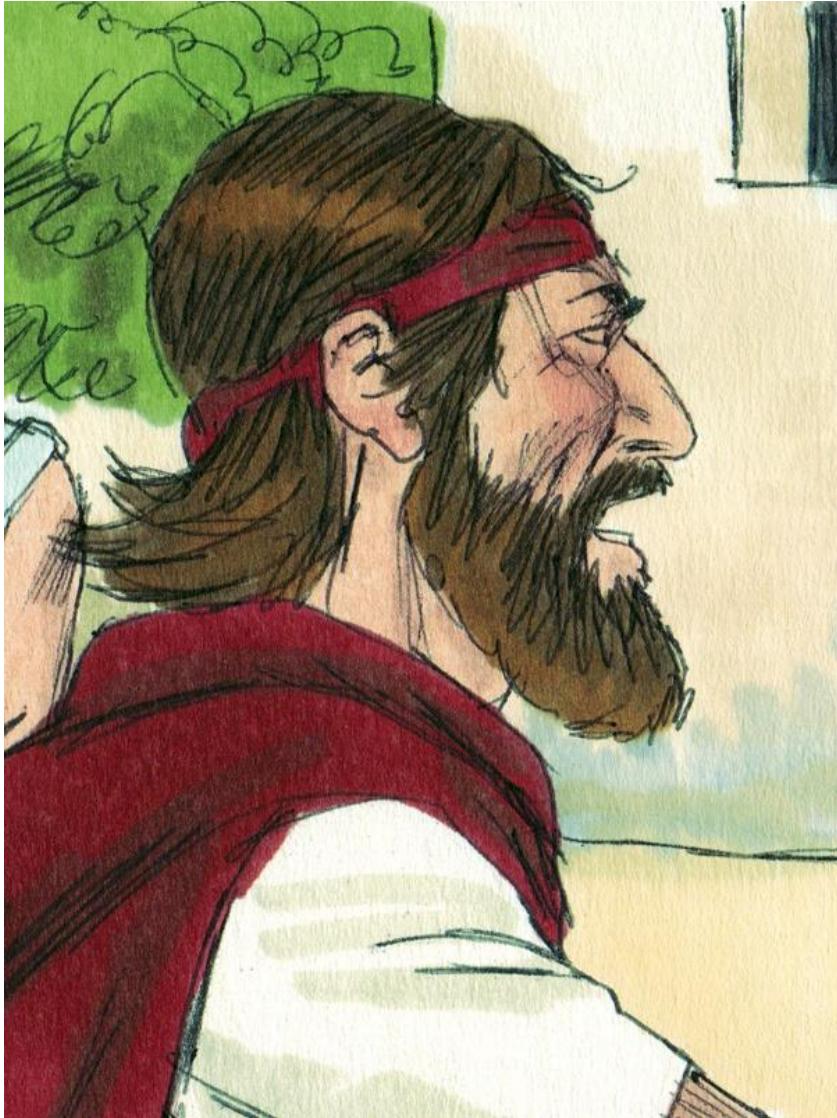


Elijah was a prophet.

A prophet is someone who gives special messages.

Elijah was a prophet of God. He gave special messages from God to all of the people.





The Lord hid Elijah and kept him safe...

Now, after three years of no rain, the Lord decided it was time for Elijah to talk to the King again. He told Elijah to find King Ahab and give him a message. Even though he was warned that the King would try to kill him, Elijah knew that he must obey the Lord. God had taken care of him before. God would take care of him now!







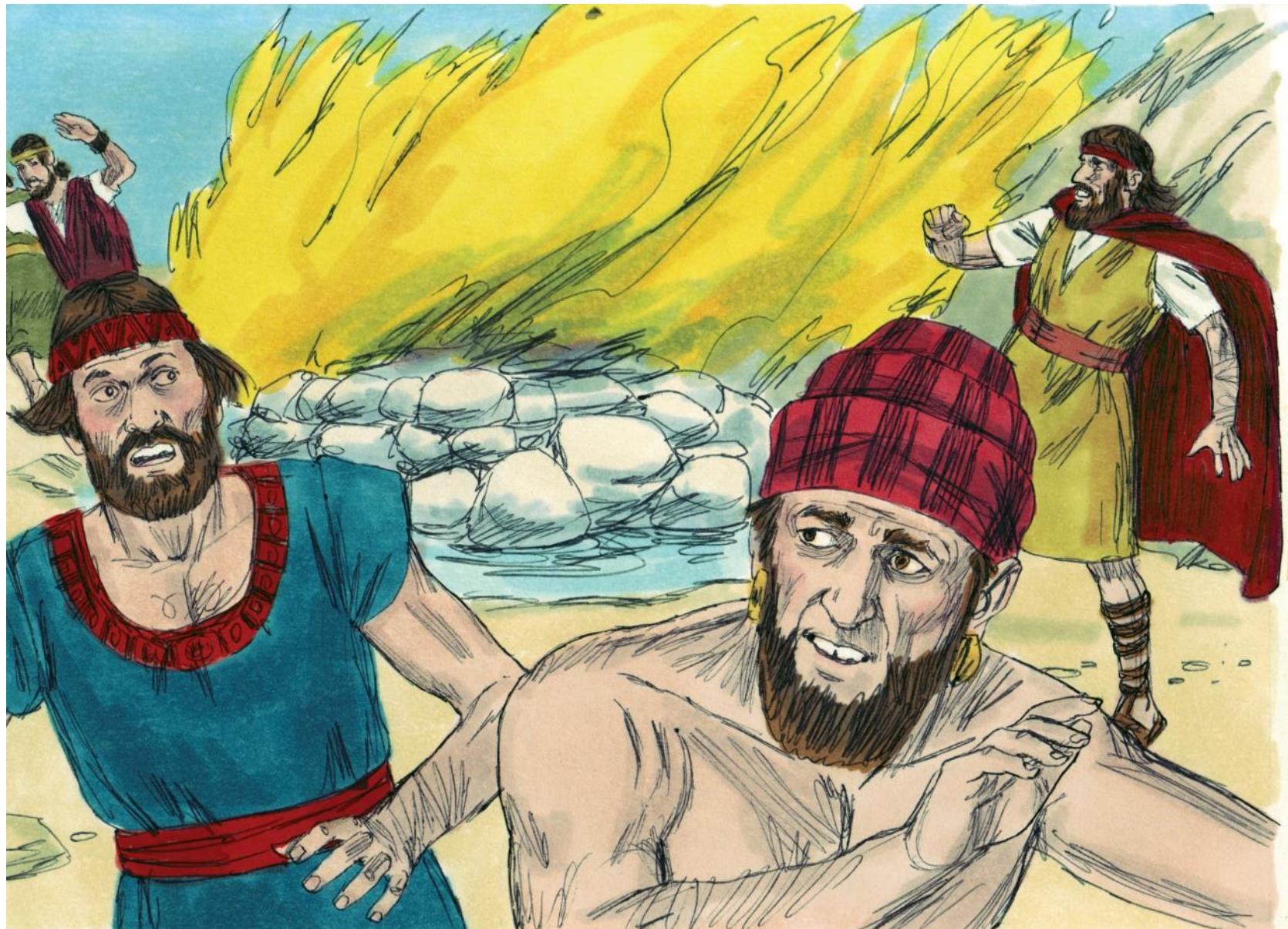


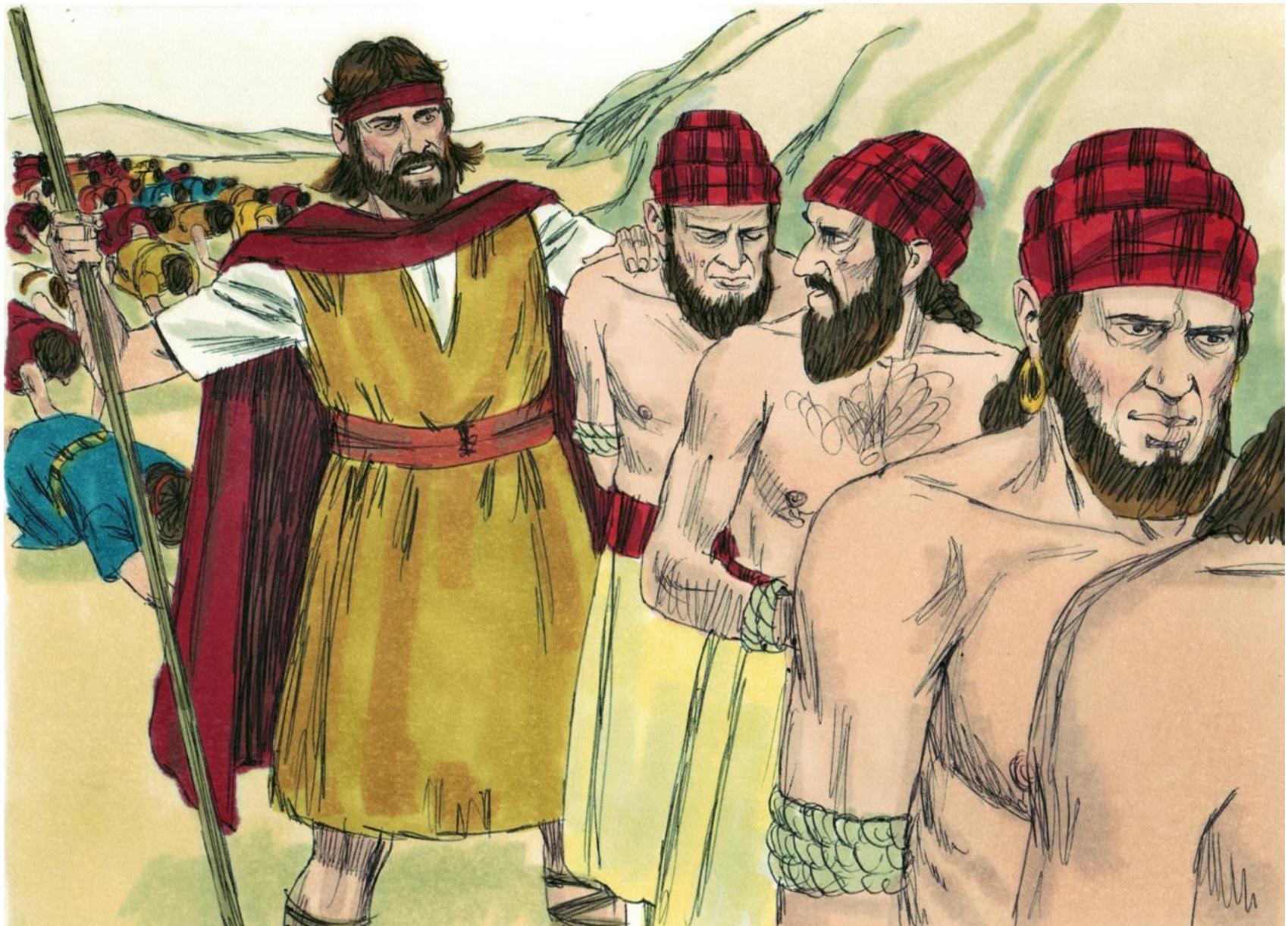


Elijah and the Contest at Mt. Carmel 1 Kings 18 www.missionbibleclass.org













Teacher Notes Page

1. Cover: Elijah and the Contest at Mount Carmel (God uses Elijah to show that He is the true God and that the false god, Baal, has no power.) 1 Kings 18
2. Elijah was a prophet. A prophet is someone who gives special messages. Elijah was a prophet of God. He gave special messages from God to all of the people.
3. King Ahab and Queen Jezebel did not like the messages that Elijah gave them. He told them that they were bad and that they were wrong to worship other gods besides the Lord. He told them that God would take away the rain so that they would learn that he was God. Ahab and Jezebel were so angry that they tried to kill Elijah and all of the other prophets.
4. The Lord hid Elijah and kept him safe... Now, after three years of no rain, the Lord decided it was time for Elijah to talk to the King again. He told Elijah to find King Ahab and give him a message. Even though he was warned that the King would try to kill him, Elijah knew that he must obey the Lord. God had taken care of him before. God would take care of him now!
5. Elijah met Ahab. Ahab was very angry with Elijah, "You are a trouble-maker Elijah. You caused the rain to go away. It is your fault that we have had a drought." "No, King Ahab," said Elijah. "You caused the drought. It was because you stopped worshipping the Lord. The Lord knows that you and your wife, Jezebel, worship false gods. You make idols and bow down before them. You think that there are other gods named Baal and Asherah. You even believe the men who say that they are prophets of these false gods. But you are wrong! There is only one God. He is the Lord God! He is the only real God. All of the others are just made up. Gather all of the people and all of the prophets of Baal and Asherah together at Mount Carmel. We will have a contest to see whose god is real!"

6. King Ahab did as Elijah said. People from all over Israel came to watch the contest. It didn't really seem like a fair contest. Elijah was the only prophet of God there. There were 450 prophets of the false god, Baal, and also 400 prophets of the false god, Asherah.
7. Elijah spoke to all of the people, "Everyone needs to make a decision today. If Baal is real then you need to worship him. If the Lord God is real, then you need to worship Him!" Elijah suggested that they should have a contest to prove who the real God was. The prophets of Baal could build an altar and Elijah could build an altar. Each could place an animal sacrifice on their altar and then pray to their God to light a fire for the sacrifice. The God who could send a fire for the sacrifice was the true God.
8. The prophets of Baal agreed to the contest. They made their altar and then they prayed and cried out to Baal. But nothing happened to the sacrifice on the altar. They cried even louder and harder. But still there was no answer.
9. "Maybe Baal is asleep or maybe he is busy," said Elijah. Elijah knew that Baal would never cause fire to come down because Baal was not real. Baal was just a god that someone made up.
10. Next, it was Elijah's turn. He built an altar to God. He used twelve stones to make it and then he placed the sacrifice on the altar. Then, Elijah did something very unusual! He dug a ditch around the altar he made. He asked for four large jars of water and had them poured over the altar. Then he did it again. And then again. There was so much water that it soaked the sacrifice and all of the wood on the altar. It even ran into the ditch around the altar. How would something soaked in water ever burn? This seemed impossible!

Teacher Notes Page...continued

11. Then Elijah prayed to God. "I pray to you, Lord, because you are the only God. Please show all of these people here today that you are real. Please send down fire and burn this sacrifice."
12. Then an amazing thing happened. Fire came down out of the sky and burned the sacrifice. But the amazing things did not stop there. The fire was so powerful that it burned the wood on the altar, the stones, the dirt, and even dried up all of the water in the ditch around the altar. There was nothing left.
Now everyone knew that the Lord was the only God. They bowed down and kept saying, "The Lord – he is God! The Lord – he is God!"
13. The prophets of Baal tried to run away but they were caught and killed.
14. Remember that there had been a draught for three years? Elijah prayed again. He knew that the Lord would end the drought and that the rain would come. His servant saw a cloud in the sky. The cloud was the size of a man's hand. Then it got bigger and bigger and the sky became black. Elijah told Ahab that the rain was coming. King Ahab rode his chariot and Elijah ran to beat the storm. The draught was over.
15. After the fire and the storm do you think King Ahab learned a lesson? No, he still did not obey the real God. He would rather worship made-up gods. When King Ahab told Queen Jezebel about that she was very angry. The King and Queen hated Elijah and the prophets of God. As long as she lived Queen Jezebel kept sending soldiers to try to kill Elijah.

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