God the... REVEALER

The God Who Answers by Fire
1 Kings 18
1. The God who answers by fire is deserving of our loyalty
1. The God who answers by fire is **deserving of our loyalty**

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is that you, you destroyer of Israel?”
1. The God who answers by fire is **deserving of our loyalty**

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

18 He replied, “I have not destroyed Israel, but you and your father’s house have, because you have abandoned the Lord’s commands and followed the Baals.”
1. The God who answers by fire is **deserving of our loyalty**

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

19 Now summon all Israel to meet me at Mount Carmel, along with the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah who eat at Jezebel’s table.”
1. The God who answers by fire is **deserving of our loyalty**

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

20 So Ahab summoned all the Israelites and gathered the prophets at Mount Carmel.
1. The God who answers by fire is deserving of our loyalty

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

21 Then Elijah approached all the people and said, “How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If Yahweh is God, follow Him. But if Baal, follow him.” But the people didn’t answer him a word.
1. The God who answers by fire is deserving of our loyalty

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

22 Then Elijah said to the people, “I am the only remaining prophet of the Lord, but Baal’s prophets are 450 men.”
1. The God who answers by fire is deserving of our loyalty

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

23 Let two bulls be given to us. They are to choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and place it on the wood but not light the fire. I will prepare the other bull and place it on the wood but not light the fire.
1. The God who answers by fire is **deserving of our loyalty**

1 Kings 18:17-24 (HCSB) –

24 Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of Yahweh. The God who answers with fire, He is God.”

All the people answered, “That sounds good.”
2. The God who answers by fire is \textit{different from false gods}.

1 Kings 18:25-29 (HCSB) –

25 Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Since you are so numerous, choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first. Then call on the name of your god but don’t light the fire.”
2. The God who answers by fire is **different from false gods**

1 Kings 18:25-29 (HCSB) –

26 So they took the bull that he gave them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, “Baal, answer us!”
2. The God who answers by fire is different from false gods

1 Kings 18:25-29 (HCSB) –
But there was no sound; no one answered. Then they danced, hobbling around the altar they had made.
2. The God who answers by fire is different from false gods

1 Kings 18:25-29 (HCSB) –

27 At noon Elijah mocked them. He said, “Shout loudly, for he’s a god! Maybe he’s thinking it over; maybe he has wandered away; or maybe he’s on the road. Perhaps he’s sleeping and will wake up!”
2. The God who answers by fire is **different from false gods**

1 Kings 18:25-29 (HCSB) –

28 They shouted loudly, and cut themselves with knives and spears, according to their custom, until blood gushed over them.
2. The God who answers by fire is **different from false gods**

1 Kings 18:25-29 (HCSB) –

29 All afternoon they kept on raving until the offering of the evening sacrifice, but there was no sound; no one answered, no one paid attention.
3. The God who answers by fire is destined to receive glory

1 Kings 18:30-35 (HCSB) –

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come near me.” So all the people approached him. Then he repaired the Lord’s altar that had been torn down:
3. The God who answers by fire is destined to receive glory

1 Kings 18:30-35 (HCSB) –

31 Elijah took 12 stones – according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, “Israel will be your name” – 32 and he built an altar with the stones in the name of Yahweh.
3. The God who answers by fire is **destined to receive glory**

1 Kings 18:30-35 (HCSB) –
Then he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold about four gallons.
3. The God who answers by fire is destined to receive glory.

1 Kings 18:30-35 (HCSB) –

33 Next, he arranged the wood, cut up the bull, and placed it on the wood. He said, “Fill four water pots with water and pour it on the offering to be burned and on the wood.”
3. The God who answers by fire is destined to receive glory

1 Kings 18:30-35 (HCSB) –

3⁴ Then he said, “A second time!” and they did it a second time. And then he said, “A third time!” and they did it a third time. ³⁵ So the water ran all around the altar; he even filled the trench with water.
3. The God who answers by fire is destined to receive glory

1 Kings 18:36-39 (HCSB) –

36 At the time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet approached the altar and said, “Yahweh, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, today let it be known that You are God in Israel
3. The God who answers by fire is **destined to receive glory**

1 Kings 18:36-39 (HCSB) – and I am Your servant, and that at Your word I have done all these things. 37 Answer me, Lord! Answer me so that this people will know that You, Yahweh, are God and that You have turned their hearts back.”
3. The God who answers by fire is **destined to receive glory**

1 Kings 18:36-39 (HCSB) –

38 Then Yahweh’s fire fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.
3. The God who answers by fire is destined to receive glory

1 Kings 18:36-39 (HCSB) –

39 When all the people saw it, they fell facedown and said, “Yahweh, He is God! Yahweh, He is God!”
Romans 5:6-8 (HCSB)

While we were still helpless, at the appointed moment, Christ died for the ungodly. For rarely will someone die for a just person – though for a good person perhaps someone might even dare to die. But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!
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