

No Compromise – No Contest

- 1 Kings 16:25 Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, and acted more wickedly than all who *were* before him.
- 1 Kings 16:29-30 Now Ahab the son of Omri became king over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. 30 Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD more than all who were before him.

1. Elijah _____? – The Tishbite

- 1 Kings 17:1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.”
- Elijah means “_____.”
- 2 Kings 2:11 As they were going along and talking, behold, *there appeared* a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven.
- Malachi 4:5 Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD.
- Your background is not as important as your allegiance.

2. Elijah the _____

1 Kings 18:1 Now it happened *after* many days that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, “Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth.”

- 1 Kings 18:17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is this you, you troubler of Israel?”
- Acts 17:6 And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also.”
- The world was already upside down. Paul and Silas were working to turn it rightside up.
- 1 Kings 18:18 He said, “I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father’s house *have*, because you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and you have followed the Baals.
- Other people’s opinions are not nearly as important as God’s opinion.

3. Elijah the _____ – 1 Kings 18:36

1 Kings 18:21 Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long *will* you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.” But the people did not answer him a word.

- We think we are beyond idolatry, but we’re not.
- 1 John 5:21 “Little children, keep yourselves from idols.”

- 1 John 5:21 Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts. (NLT)
- 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.
- 1 Corinthians 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.
- 1 Kings 18:27 It came about at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Call out with a loud voice, for he is a god; either he is occupied or gone aside, or is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and needs to be awakened."
- 1 Kings 18:36-39 At the time of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and I have done all these things at Your word. 37 Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that You, O LORD, are God, and *that* You have turned their heart back again." 38 Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. 39 When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God."
- Opposition is not nearly as important as obedience.
- Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?

Conclusion:

- James 5:17-18 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.

How will you be a champion for God in 2023?