

## **I Kings 18.19-40** **The God who Comes**

### **Summary**

**1. What is your Carmel? (19-20)** What are you facing that God really needs to come down upon? God, I need the real You here. Carmel is the place for proving God.

**2. How long will you waver between two opinions? (v21)** So often we wobble between trusting God but not really trusting, between faith and fear, between the Lord and logic, between the hand of God and the arm of the flesh. This results in anxiety, worry, fear.

**3. Baalish Tendencies (22-29)**

The prophets of Baal show us what we are like when we stop trusting in God and try to generate our own results. Impatience, giving up easily, working harder/more activity, worry – these all arising from not actually trusting that God will come. They are substitutes for his presence.

**4. Faith (30-37)**

Elijah is our example of faith. Faith is as old as religion (God has always been a miracle-worker). Faith gets everything ready for God to come. Faith is slow and steady and unpanicked. Faith is trust or bust. Faith hates hype.

**5. The presence of God (38-39)**

Fire represents God's presence in the Holy Spirit. The Fire fell (Suddenly God is here!) There was lots of it (when God comes, He really comes). Fire does not share. The presence of God distinguishes between true and false religion.

**6. Put to death your Baalish tendencies! (40)**

In the presence of God put to death anything in you that is Baalish and trust God only!

### **Questions for Personal Application**

1. Do you have any thing going on at the moment that you really need God to answer and prove his presence?
2. When do you find it hard to trust God?
3. In what ways do you compensate for a lack of God' presence?
4. When was the last time you knew the presence of God all over you? Pray for one another.
5. How can we have more faith in God?
6. Is there anything you have been believing for for a long time that hasn't happened yet. How can we encourage you to keep believing?