Days of Elijah
Courage or Compromise?
1 Kings 18:1-16

Evangel Baptist Church, Wheaton IL
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This is a pdf file of the PowerPoint® notes for the message by Pastor Dave Tietjen on Sunday, October 9, 2016, continuing his series on the prophet Elijah.

A deadly scenario
Calling for honesty

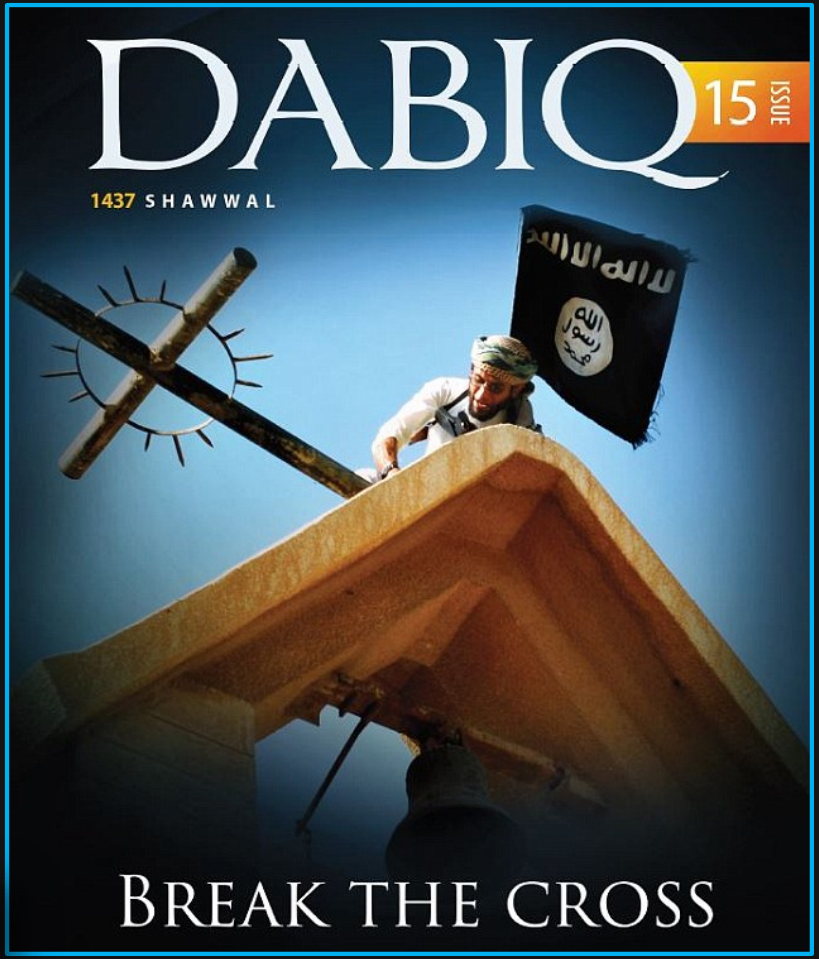
A puzzling dilemma

"Is Jihad a reaction or a reflection?"

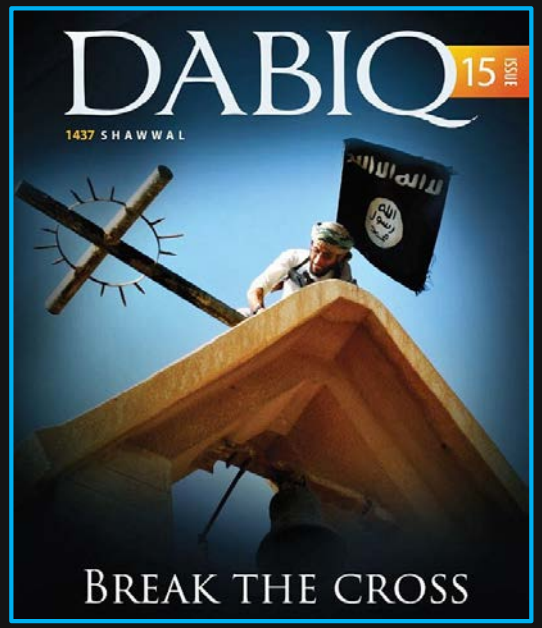
A profound declaration

A profound declaration
Intention

"Why We Hate You and Fight You"

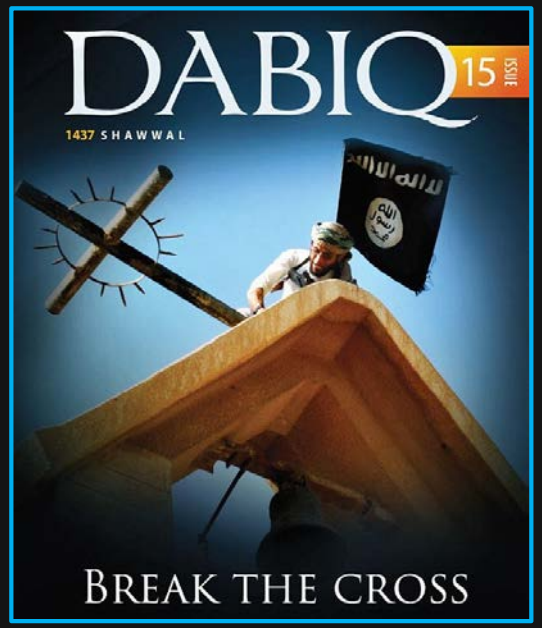


A profound declaration
Intention



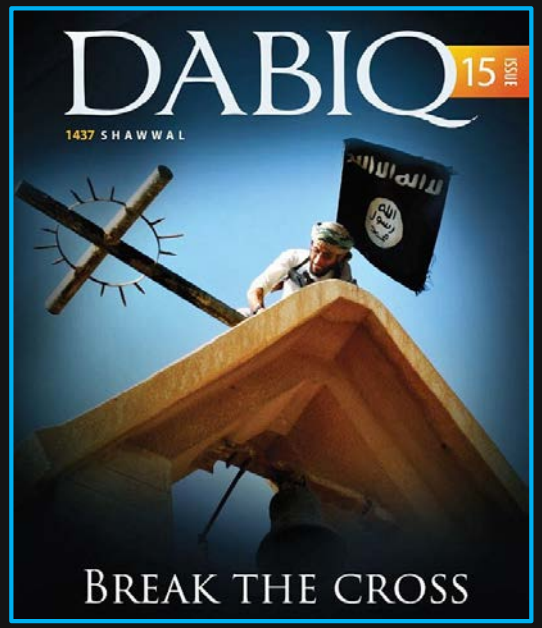
We hate you, first and foremost, because you are disbelievers; you reject the oneness of Allah – whether you realize it or not – by making partners for Him in worship, you blaspheme against Him, claiming that He has a son (Christ), you fabricate lies against His prophets and messengers and you indulge in all manner of devilish practices. . . .

A profound declaration
Intention



. . . It is for this reason that we were commanded to openly declare our hatred for you and our enmity towards you. . . . Furthermore, just as your disbelief is the primary reason we hate you, your disbelief is the primary reason we fight you, as we have been commanded to fight the disbelievers until they submit to the authority of Islam. . . .

A profound declaration
Intention



. . . The fact is, even if you were to stop bombing us, imprisoning us, torturing us, vilifying us and usurping our lands, we would continue to hate you, because our primary reason for hating you will not cease to exist until you embrace Islam.

A profound declaration
Indictment

Muslims believe "that it was their right and duty to make war upon others wherever they could be found and to make slaves of all they could take as prisoners . . . every Muslim who should be slain in battle was sure to go to Paradise."

Thomas Jefferson

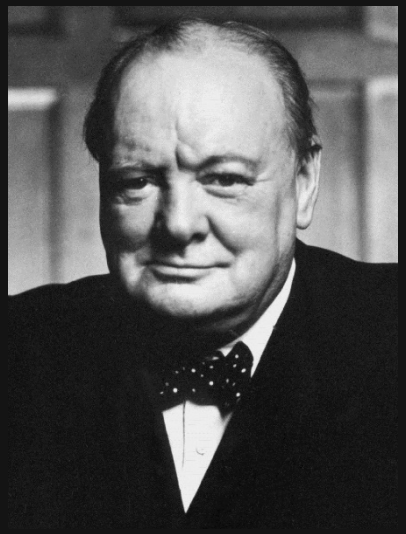
A profound declaration
Indictment

Muhammad "degraded" the female sex, and (Islam) declared undistinguishing an exterminating war, as part of his religion, against all the rest of mankind.

John Quincy Adams

A profound declaration
Indictment

No stronger retrograde force exists in the world.



Winston Churchill

A probable danger
Ancient intolerance?

A despotic sovereign
Calling for sagacity
(Acuteness of discernment, soundness of judgment)

Sought in a divine moment

1 Kings 18:1-2 NKJV

And it came to pass after many days that the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth." So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab; and there was a severe famine in Samaria.

Served by a distinguished man
"Faithful, fervent, fearless"

1 Kings 18:3-4 NKJV

And Ahab had called Obadiah, who was in charge of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly. For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)

Served by a distinguished man
"Faithful, fervent, fearless"

- He gave **excellence** to his **work**

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- He gave **excellence** to his **work**
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1 Kings 18:7-9 NKJV

Now as Obadiah was on his way, suddenly Elijah met him; and he recognized him, and fell on his face, and said, "Is that you, my lord Elijah?" And he answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your master, 'Elijah is here.'" So he said, "How have I sinned, that you are delivering your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?" . . .

Served by a distinguished man
"Faithful, fervent, fearless"

- He gave **excellence** to his **work**
- He gave **evidence** of his **faith**
- He gave **expression** to his **fear**

1 Kings 18:12 NKJV

. . . And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of the LORD will carry you to a place I do not know; so when I go and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will kill me. But I your servant have feared the LORD from my youth.

Served by a distinguished man
"Faithful, fervent, fearless"

- He gave **excellence** to his **work**
- He gave **evidence** of his **faith**
- He gave **expression** to his **fear**
- He gave **emphasis** to **discretion**

Served by a distinguished man
"Faithful, fervent, fearless"

Elijah was the man of action – bold, always to the front, with nothing to conceal; Obadiah was a quiet believer, true and steadfast, but in a very difficult position, and therefore driven to perform his duty in a less open manner. His faith in the Lord swayed his life, but did not drive him out of the court.

Charles Spurgeon

Served by a distinguished man
"Faithful, fervent, fearless"

- He gave **excellence** to his **work**
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A decisive solution
Calling for integrity

1 Kings 18:15-16 NKJV

Then Elijah said, "As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely present myself to him today." So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

Connect widely

John 17:15 NKJV

I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

Communicate wisely

1 Peter 2:11-12 NKJV

Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Communicate wisely

- An excellent work ethic
- An evident faith—*Megan Alexander*

Be confident completely

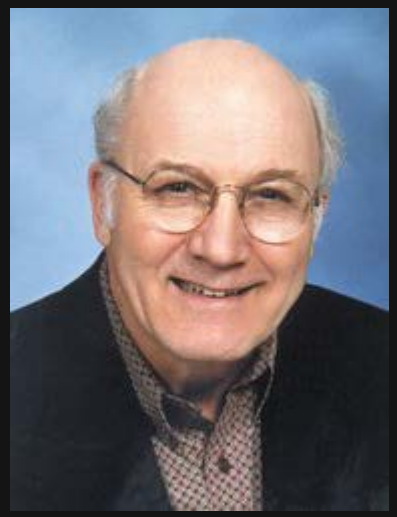
For anyone whom God has called to live in the world as Obadiah was, Jehovah Sabaoth is a good name of God to remember. It will keep you from depression and discouragement; and it will keep you from letting down the bars of your Christian testimony.

William Petersen

Be confident completely

Where there are no difficult problems, there is no need for divine solutions. Where there are no battles against evil, there are no spiritual victories.

Conversely, when we face predicaments that seem to be beyond our abilities to handle, it's during these times that God often reveals His power and His love.



Gene Getz