

Following is the outline from a message by Pastor Dave Tietjen at Evangel Baptist Church, Wheaton IL  
[www.ev bapt.org](http://www.ev bapt.org), with the resumption of his series on Elijah from 1 Kings.

Also available are the pdf file of the [PowerPoint® version](#) of the notes, as well as an [audio podcast](#)

## Message Notes

### “Days of Elijah: I’ve Seen Fire . . .”

#### 1 Kings 18:36-38 (ESV)

February 5, 2017

#### The Conflict that We See

- ◆ **See the Difference: Trendy (Left) / Traditional (Right)**
  - Source of Human Rights:** Government / The Creator
  - Human Nature:** Basically Good (Therefore Society Primarily Responsible for Evil) / Not Basically Good (Therefore the Individual Primarily Responsible for Evil)
  - Economic Goal:** Equality / Prosperity
  - Primary Role of the State:** Increase and Protect Equality / Increase and Protect Liberty
  - Family Ideal:** Any Loving Unit of People / Married Father and Mother and Children
  - Good and Evil:** Relative to Individual and/or Society / Based on Universal Absolutes
  - How to Make a Good Society:** Abolish Inequality / Develop Each Citizen’s Moral Character
  - View of America:** Profoundly Morally Flawed, Inferior to Any Number of European Countries / Greatest Force for Good Among Nations in World History
  - Most Important Trait to Cultivate in a Child:** Self-Esteem / Self-Control
  - Worth of the Human Fetus:** Determined By the Mother / Determined By Society Rooted in Judeo-Christian Values
  - Primary Source of Crime:** Poverty, Racism and Other Societal Flaws / The Criminal’s Malfunctioning Conscience
  - Place of God and Religion in America:** Secular Government and Secular Society / Secular Government and Religious Society (Dennis Prager, January 2017)
- ◆ **Be the Difference**

“Push back against the age as hard as it pushes against you. What people don’t realize is how much religion costs. They think faith is a big electric blanket, when, of course, it is the cross.” (Flannery O’Connor)

#### The Confrontation Occurred (Elijah at Mt. Carmel)

- ◆ **Certainly Dramatic . . .**
- ◆ **Hopefully Decisive**

#### The Choice Offered . . .

- ◆ **Was Pressed Individually**

And Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.” And the people did not answer him a word. (1 Kings 18:21)
- ◆ **Was Prepared Insightfully**

◆ **Was Prayed Over Intensely**

◆ **Reviewing His Actions (vs. 36-37)**

◆ **Receiving His Answer (vs. 38)**

“Where moments before an altar and sacrifice had stood shining in the sun, there now remained only a burned, fire-blackened depression in the scorched soil. God’s presence, power and person had taken and consumed everything offered.”

(Phillip Keller)

**The Consequences Observed**

◆ **People of Faith Were Consecrated**

And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God.”

(1 Kings 18:39)

◆ **Prophets of Falsehood Were Condemned**

And Elijah said to them, “Seize the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape.” And they seized them. And Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon and slaughtered them there.

(1 Kings 18:40)

◆ **Lawfully**

◆ **Wisely**

“And now, in accordance with the Divine command in the Law, stern judgment must be executed on the idolaters and seducers, the idol-priests. The victory that day must be complete; the renunciation of Baal-worship beyond recall.”

(Alfred Edersheim)

◆ **Prophetically (Revelation 16:16-21)**

But a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

(Hebrews 10:27)

**The Cross Outlined**

◆ **Our Redeemer Illustrated**

◆ **Our Repentance Invited**

*“Out of gratitude, those of us who even feebly understand His compassion will, in turn, tear away the false gods and falsehoods from our lives. There will sweep into our spirits and souls the unshakable conviction that we, for our part, must do away with the duplicity, the deception, the devilment which have so long dogged us. . . . This is sincere conviction in the believer and in the church. And it always precedes the sound of the approaching rain of revival.”*

(Phillip Keller)