

## AN ABUNDANCE OF RAIN.

### 1 KINGS 18:41-46.

1. Imagine, three and one half years without rain. There would be no crops, no water in the rivers, economic hardship and a severe food shortage.

These were the conditions in Israel at that time.

2. King Ahab and Queen Jezebel had led the nation into the worship of idols. Their idols were Baal and Ashtoreth.

Furthermore, they did all they could to silence the Prophets of God.

3. One of the chief claims of the Baal worshippers was that Baal controlled the weather.

Every rainfall was attributed to their idol god. This will incur the Wrath of God. It will cause the rains to cease.

4. The Lord said in Lev. 26:3-4, "If ye walk in My Statutes, and keep My Commandments, and do them;

"Then I will give you Rain in Due Season, and the Land shall yield her Increase, and the Trees of the field shall yield their Fruit."

5. It was during the reign of King Ahab that Elijah the Prophet appeared on the scene.

(1 Kings 17:1) He appeared before the King and told him that it was not going to rain again until he said it would.

6. He may not have been taken seriously by the King and his court at that time. He may not have even been known by those of the royal court.

However, as the months and years went by without rain, the King became desperate to find this Prophet who had hidden himself away from the public.

7. Let's look at:

### HAVING AN ABUNDANCE OF RAIN.

There Must Be:

- A. Preparation.
- B. Prayer.
- C. Persistence.

#### **A. There Must Be Preparation.**

In our Scripture reading, we see that:

- 1. IT INVOLVED CONFRONTATION.
  - A. Elijah Confronted The King.  
(1 Kings 18:18)
  - B. Elijah Confronted The People.  
(1 Kings 18:21)

Elijah forced the people to face their condition. They must recognize their offense against God. The Lord hates idolatry.

It's prohibition is one of the Ten Commandments.

In Exodus 20:3-4 God said, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."

C. Elijah Confronted The Religious Establishment. (1 Kings 18:22)