

Session 2:

Whose God? Your God...My God... Our God...Why?

What is your belief based on? How do you know it is real? Why should you not question anything that is just built on faith?

The hymn, The Solid Rock...why is it considered the truth? "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and

righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly **lean on Jesus' name!**

On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking

sand...all other ground is sinking sand."

"The righteous will live by faith" (Romans 1:17).

"..Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17)

"We live by faith, not by sight" (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Today's message reveals a man of character and faith...of understanding the God who makes all things possible....Elijah!

Last session, we saw the faith of Elijah...and the power of a God who wants to reveal himself to man...in ordinary ways...but, if needs be...will do the extraordinary (the impossible) to reveal the Glory of God.

The widow's faith was in a man at first...then understood that man can only be obedient to God...and God will reveal Himself to man!

Elijah...a prophet who loved God with a strong allegiance to seeing God's glory revealed to others. Elijah's faith was strong...but he was not satisfied

with having faith without bringing others to the great works of the Lord God Jehovah.

Elijah was willing to place his life on the line for God...Why?

Do you find yourself "envious" of such a man of faith...because your faith will not go that for...?



Did God create the world...the universe?

"AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN AHAB SAW ELIJAH, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the Commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim. 19 Now therefore send, and gather to me ALL Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table."

NOTE:

When sin becomes the standard for a nation, as it has in our United States, and as well to the world at large, then the land is "troubled".

- Sin is the pollution which destroys, not only the beautiful environment of God's Creation
- ·but more importantly,
- ·- Sin condemns the soul.

(""Thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness" [Jeremiah 3:2].),

- •"Righteousness dwells in the Highest Heaven, and as well, Righteousness exalteth a nation" (Proverbs 14:34).
- •Loving obedience to the LORD will exalt ANY nation, even down to a solitary person.
- •"But sin is a reproach to ANY people" (Proverbs 14:34).
- •Sin violates everything so completely that even the soul of a man is consumed in an everlasting torment of fire.
- •"20 So Ahab sent unto ALL the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.
- 21 And Elijah came unto ALL the people, and said,

How long halt ye between two opinions?
 If the LORD be God, follow Him:
 but if Baal, then follow him.

•And the people answered him not a word."

Why didn't the people answer Elijah? Why were they speechless?

Their muted tongues revealed their empty hearts,

"for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matthew 12:34).

- Their action, or inaction, bare witness to their guilt. All of us testify to the whole world, and Heaven above, what lies deep within our hearts, be it good or evil, for "even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right" (Proverbs 20:11).
- These people had forgotten God for such a long time that they had to have "a sign" to remind them of Who God really was.

 The LORD Jesus said, that "an evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign" (Matthew 12:39).
- When God's people REFUSE to believe Him unless He gives them "supernatural phenomena"-- they are most certainly not on God's terms as to faith.



"for we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope" (Romans 8:24).

If professed Christians MUST have physical evidence BEFORE they commit their wills to believing God, then they have no FAITH in God at all.

"FAITH is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

"FAITH is... substance." The "evidence" CANNOT be seen.

True Christians don't Spiritually function by the limits of this physical Earth "(for we walk by FAITH, not by sight:)" (2Corinthians 5:7). We invest our limited time here "looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our FAITH" (Hebrews 12:2).

A religion of the world is evolution, and its god is nature.

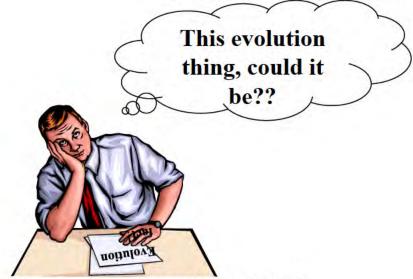
"Who changed the Truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, Who is blessed for ever. Amen." (Romans 1:25).

We MUST believe God. It is only His Word that we trust.

"I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me" (Acts 27:25).

He is our Life. We MUST BELIEVE Him,

"for he that cometh to God MUST BELIEVE that He is" (Hebrews 11:6).



How long will you waver between two opinions?

Believe in God...
Don't believe in God.

Which will it be?......"As for me and my house we will serve God."

We must choose to follow...or turn away.

We must be a person that is trying to follow God...or disobeying and shaking our fist at God...with a selfish, arrogant attitude of "I can do this myself....I am who I am...and nobody tells me what to do." As an adult, we ought to know better...but because of our flesh, we desire to yield to flesh...unless, we totally yield ourselves to the power of Christ found in the Holy Spirit.

Elijah trusted God....and when he trusted...God revealed Himself with total authority.

We must choose to follow the Word even if the evidence is contrary to what the Word says or is saying!

Bible Point: Choose to serve God....Stress this every day...by word and by action. Parents will be the example before anyone else. However, our godly actions must be at work and out in the world. What you do speaks louder than what you say!

God deserves our worship....and we are to serve Him in times of trouble or in times when things are great.

Key verse: "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:2-3)