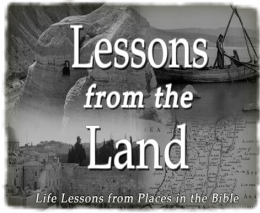


Getting a better *view* of Life.



LESSONS FROM THE LAND #5 NOAH LARGENT 5/5/13

1st Kings 18:21 Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

1. Giving into _____.

Just like for King Ahab, giving into temptation can compromise your life mission.

- Abuses his power.
- Marries a wife with a very different worldview.
- Sets up dual state religions.

³³ Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him. -1Kings 16:30-33

2. Facing painful _____.

Elijah tells King Ahab that the drought is a result of his choices.

¹⁶ Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, “Is that you, you troubler of Israel?” ¹⁸ “I have not made trouble for Israel,” Elijah replied. “But you and your father’s family have. You have abandoned the Lord’s commands and have followed the Baals. -1 Kings 18:16-18

Consequences & Discipline: Often our decisions effect not only our own lives but others as well. It is easy to forget that God’s discipline is proof of His love for us (Provers 3:11-12)!

The showdown on Mount Carmel ended being no contest since Baal, the alleged god of lightning, thunder, rain and fertility, did not show up. It is Yahweh (the one true God) alone who gives, rain, blessings and life. The God of the Bible, both Old and New Testament, is unique. A person cannot accept the God of the Bible **and** something else. To do so is spiritual adultery. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me” (John 15:6). The statement is exclusive. It leaves no room for limping between two opinions. *The Land & the Bible*, Bill Schlegel -Version#4 2011 pg. 103-104

3. Life is full of _____ to make changes!

God brings King Ahab and the people up to Mount Carmel to confront them. The consequences of their choices is on full display. It is an ***opportunity for them to change!***

Elijah challenged the people: “How long are you going to sit on the fence? If God is the real God, follow him; if it’s Baal, follow him. Make up your minds!” Nobody said a word; nobody made a move. -1 Kings 18:21

4. Living for God is both a challenge and a great _____.

Elijah reminds us that one of the keys to representing God well means saying no to temptation and keeping God’s priorities as our own.

³⁶ I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.” -1 Kings 18:236-37

Keys words:

In 1 Kings 18:21 Elijah asks the people to “get off the fence”, meaning make a decision about who to follow, God or Baal. The hebrew word is “pasach”, it means: ***to wavier, to limp along, skip or dance.***

In 2 Corinthians 5:20 Paul says that we are “ambassadors” for Christ, as though God was making his appeal through us. The dictionary defines an Ambassador as: ***an accredited diplomat sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country.***

Notes:
