

*<sup>36</sup> And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. <sup>37</sup> Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." <sup>38</sup> Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. <sup>39</sup> And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God."*

**Questions:**

1. Earlier, in verse 17:24, a woman says to Elijah "...you are a holy man". What characteristics of Elijah, as seen in chapter 18, made him a holy man, a man of God?
2. Elijah was standing alone against Ahab, the prophets of Baal, false deities and a backslidden Israel. He would not back down, nor compromise. Contrast this with complacency and self-contentment which sometimes creep into our lives - how can we protect ourselves against these things?
3. How can we speak against sin in our culture? How can we prepare ourselves for the persecution that may follow if we speak up?
4. Elijah used the name Israel to say 'we are one', addressing the issue of division. Similarly, in our churches, division sometimes occurs. How can we achieve and maintain unity?
5. How do we repair the "altars" of our lives (repairing the brokenness of ourselves, our families, our relationships)?
6. Symbolically, Elijah repaired the altar of the Lord with twelve stones to represent the twelve tribes. It was a dedication to the Lord. How can we dedicate ourselves and our efforts, to ensure our churches are strong and our message is strong?