

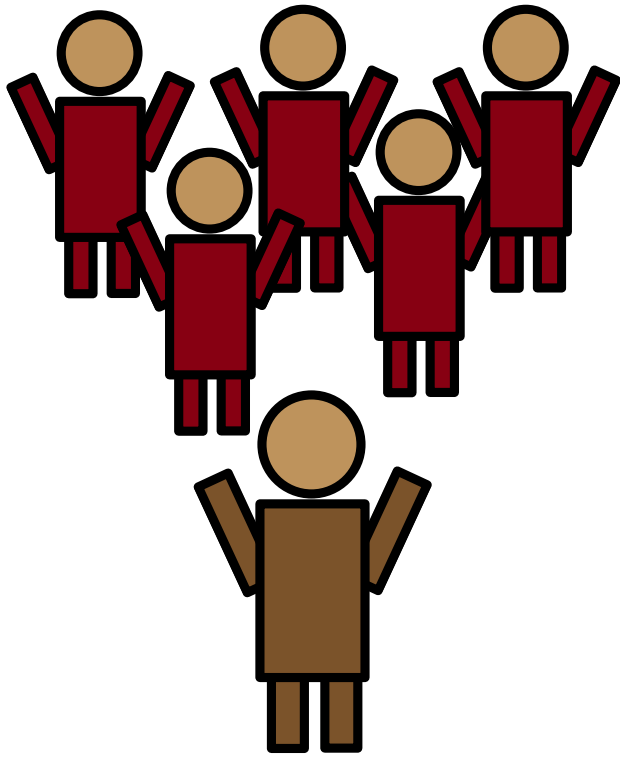
Elijah and the Prophets of Baal



1 Kings 18
New International
Reader's Version

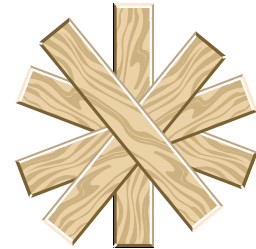
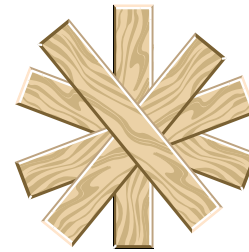
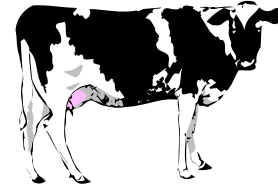


Elijah said, "Now send for people from all over Israel. Tell them to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the 450 prophets of the god Baal."



Elijah went there and stood in front of the people. He said, "How long will it take you to make up your minds? If the Lord is the one and only God, follow him. But if Baal is the one and only God, follow him."

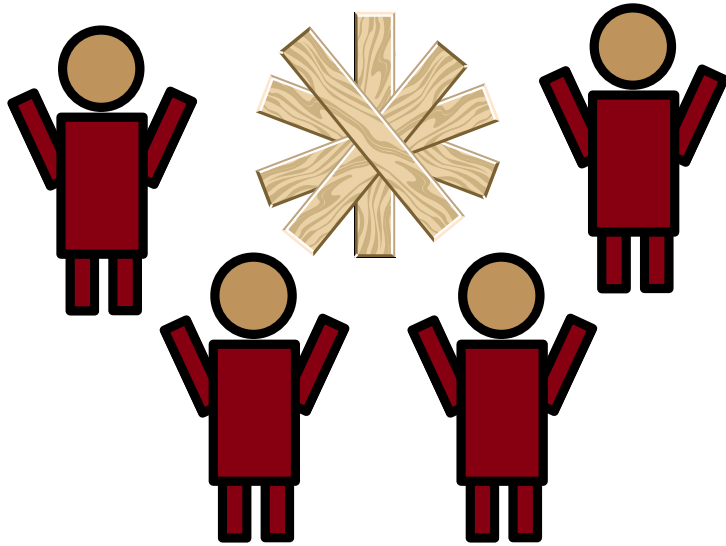
Then Elijah said to them, "I'm the only one of the Lord's prophets left. But Baal has 450 prophets."



Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves. Then let them put it on the wood. But don't let them set fire to it.

I'll prepare the other bull. I'll put it on the wood. But I won't set fire to it.

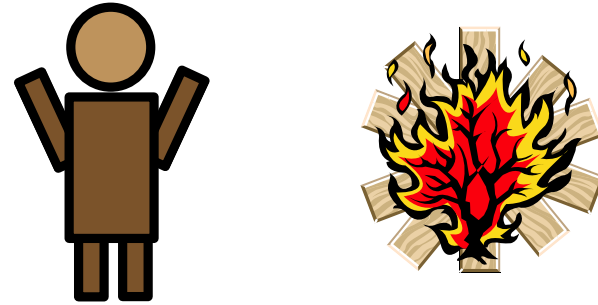
Then you pray to your god. And I'll pray to the Lord. The god who answers by sending fire down is the one and only God."



They prayed to Baal from morning until noon. "Baal! Answer us!" they shouted. But there wasn't any reply. No one answered. Then they danced around the altar they had made.

At noon Elijah began to tease them. "Shout louder!" he said. "I'm sure Baal is a god! Maybe he's sleeping. You might have to wake him up."

So they shouted louder. But there wasn't any reply. No one answered. No one paid any attention.

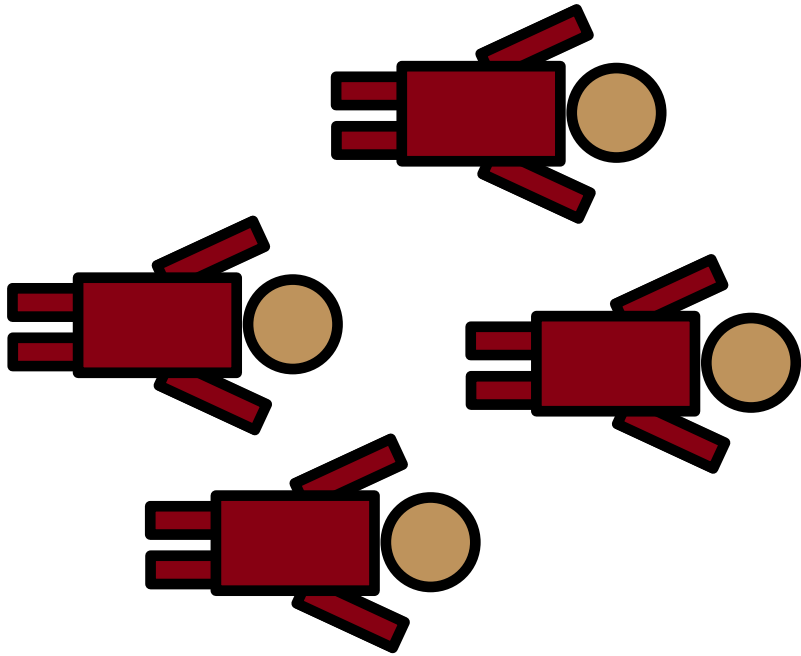


Elijah got 12 stones. There was one for each tribe in the family line of Jacob. Elijah used the stones to build an altar in honor of the Lord.

Then he said to some of the people, "Fill four large jars with water. Pour it on the offering and the wood." The water ran down around the altar.

He prayed, "Answer me. Lord, answer me. Then these people will know that you are the one and only God."

The fire of the Lord came down. It burned up the sacrifice.



All of the people saw it.
Then they fell down flat with
their faces toward the
ground. They cried out, "The
Lord is the one and only
God! The Lord is the one and
only God!"