

## Repairing the Altar

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 18:30, 36-38

### Introduction

Elijah had witnessed a decline in the spiritual fervor of Israel. It began when Israel no longer felt a need to go to a personal altar before God for forgiveness, worship, and fellowship. This national and personal sin required that the altar be repaired, and that broken fellowship with God be reinstated.

### I. Some altars that need to be repaired

**1 Kings 18:30** And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

#### A. The altar of repentance

**Acts 2:38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent....

1. Request for forgiveness
2. Forsaking the offense
3. The altar of consecration

**Hebrews 12:1** Wherefore seeing that we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

- a. Ridding ourselves of hindrances to vital spiritual life
- b. Removing the burdens of daily life which drain our vitality

#### C. The altar of submission

**Romans 12:1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

1. Ascertaining the will of God
2. Submitting to the will of God
  - a. Its sacrifices
  - b. Its benefits

### II. Using the altar that has been repaired

**1 Kings 18:36c** ...let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel ....

#### A. Pray prayers that God can answer in your favor

1. Know his will for the situation
2. Get to the point
  - a. Prayer doesn't have to be long
  - b. Elijah's prayer is 63 words long
3. Expect results

#### B. Realize that God's reputation is at stake

1. This is the primary issue
2. Your reputation is secondary

#### C. Give God an opportunity to prove himself

1. God has an investment in your life
2. He never fails

### III. Receiving victory through a repaired altar

**1 Kings 18:38a** Then the fire of the Lord fell....

#### A. Know that you are in right relationship with God

#### B. Stand on faith not facts

1. The sacrifice and wood were soaked in water
2. No fire on earth could have consumed the wood and sacrifice
3. God's fire fell and consumed it all