

Lesson, 1 Kings 18: 30-40.

Read 1 Kings 17: 17 to 18: 46.

Commit vs. 36-39.

30. And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

31. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:

32. And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.

33. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.

34. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

35. And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

36. And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

37. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

38. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.

40. And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal, let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

"And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, the Lord he is the God: the Lord, he is the God."—1 Kings 18: 39.

## LESSON PLAN.

1. Preparation, vs. 30-35.
2. Prayer, vs. 36-37.
3. Answer, v. 38.
4. Results, vs. 39-40.

## DAILY READINGS.

- M. The challenge, 1 Kings 18:17-29.  
 T. Elijah on Carmel, 1 Kings 18: 30-39.  
 W. The little cloud, 1 Kings 18: 40-46.  
 T. A solemn covenant, Deut. 30: 10-20.  
 F. Decide now! Joshua 24: 14-24.  
 S. Hold fast! 2 Tim. 1: 6-13.  
 S. Reward of faithfulness, Rev 3: 7-13.

## CATECHISM.

Q. 27. Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

A. Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.

## LESSON HYMNS.

Nos. 42, (Psalm), 246, 252, 398.

During the three and a half years drought, brought on by the word of the Lord through him, Elijah had been in hiding by the brook Cherith, and in the house of the widow of Zarephath.

At the word of the Lord, he issued forth from his retreat, and boldly confronted Ahab, rebuking him for his idolatry and disobedience to the true God. He requested the king to summon all Israel to Mount Carmel, that they might witness a public trial of the claims and powers of Baal and Jehovah.

Baal's prophets builded their altar and called upon their God, but in vain; "There was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded." Then Elijah stepped forward to put his God to the test. At this point our lesson begins.

**Vs. 30. "Come near unto me."**—He invited the people to come near, that they might see everything that he did, and that there might be no suspicion of imposture. God's truth courts the light: true religion is not afraid of being looked into. **"He repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down."** Elijah's work was one of reformation and revival.

**31. "And Elijah took twelve stones,"** etc. Though there was civil and political division among the twelve tribes, there ought to be religious and spiritual unity. Their God-given national name was "Israel," shewing their spiritual privilege and power. These constituted their true glory, which they

should not lightly throw away.

**32. "In the name of the Lord."**—Every step is taken in humble dependence upon God, and with a view to bring glory to his name. **"Two measures of seed,"** the margin of the Revised Version reads "a two-seah measure." The *seah* was the ordinary household measure of the Hebrews, containing about 1½ gallons.

**34.**—The preparations were directed with a view of making the miracle as striking as possible. No ordinary fire could consume wood and sacrifice which were so thoroughly drenched. It could not be kindled by Elijah or his attendants.

**36.**—At the regular hour of the evening sacrifice, Elijah drew near to the altar to pray. Note the manner of his prayer: calm, reverential, fervent, and calculated to awaken thoughts of gratitude and penitence in the hearts of the listeners. Note what he asks for: (1) The establishment of Jehovah's claims; (2) The proving of his own mission; (3) The conviction and conversion of the people.

**38.**—The answer was immediate and thorough. The prophet's faith was justified. God showed himself the hearer and answerer of prayer.

**39.**—The effect on the people was convincing and complete. They were awed by the evident presence and power of Jehovah. They fell on their faces before him and acknowledged him to be the only true and living God.