NEW LIFE CLASS

BRIDGING THE GAP

BETWEEN BIBLICAL LEARNING AND RADICAL LIVING



4.28.2019
Pastor-Teacher | Chris Regas

The Return of the King...*or Not?*

Lesson 11 • 1Kings 18:41-46

The LORD's Vindication on Mt Carmel by Fire from Heaven *The LORD, His Prophet & His Word Are Vindicated!*	**The LORD's Vindication on Mt Calvary by Resurrection from the Dead** *The LORD Who Is the Greater Prophet-High Priest-King & His Word Are Vindicated!*
The LORD's Mediator ***calls the people to come near*** to him. *(18:30a)*	The LORD ***calls all peoples to come near*** to His Mediator through the Gospel. *Jesus Christ is the **Miraculous Prophet** Greater than Moses and Elijah!*
The LORD's Mediator ***prepares an acceptable sacrifice*** in the Name of the LORD for His people. *(18:30b-35)*	The LORD has ***prepared the acceptable sacrifice*** of Himself in His Name for all peoples in the crucifixion of His Son. *Jesus Christ is the **Sinless Sacrificial Lamb** greater than any other sacrifice!*
The LORD's Mediator ***intercedes*** that the fame of the LORD's Name would be ***made known to all the people*** present. *(18:36-37)*	The LORD ***has interceded*** and ***is interceding*** that the fame of His Name would be ***made known to all peoples*** through Gospel proclamation. *Jesus Christ is the **High Priest** greater than any priesthood!*
The LORD and His Mediator ***are vindicated*** before all the people by the ***consuming fire falling*** from heaven. *(18:38)*	The LORD and His Mediator ***have forever been vindicated*** before all peoples by the ***satisfaction*** of His fiery wrath on the cross & His ***resurrection*** from the dead. *Jesus Christ is the **God-King** greater than any other!*
The Vindication Required a Response *Heart Repentance by Conversion or Holy Reckoning by Condemnation (18:39-40)*	**The Vindication Requires a Response** *Heart Repentance by Conversion or Holy Reckoning by Condemnation*

What Did Easter with Elijah Teach Us?

The LORD Himself Will Settle Who the True God Is by Vindicating His Chosen Servant with an Acceptable Sacrifice and a Miraculous Vindication...the **RESURRECTION** *of His Son from the dead! Romans 1:1-4*

But Where's the Rain?

Things Start Getting a Little Messy from Here on Out *– 1Kings 18:41-46*

- Lots of ***going up*** and ***going down*** the mountain.
- Why does Elijah tell the King to ***"go up to eat and drink"*** but Elijah ***"goes up to pray"*** (41-42) and then later ***"outruns"*** Ahab's chariot to Jezreel?
- What has ***Ahab been doing*** this whole time during the Spiritual Smackdown?

One Thing We Know for Sure: *God Is Still Showing* **AMAZING GRACE** *to Ahab the Apostate... just like He shows to us in our unbelief, compromise, fence-sitting, and even apostasy!*

Three Views on What Is Happening in This Passage

- **NOTHING** Special – *The rain is coming, so hurry up and eat, then get out of here!*
- **SOMETHING** Special – *The King is definitely returning and all will be restored!*
- Something **FAMILIAR** – *The people have repented and the rain is coming, so will the King return to restore all things?*

Exodus 24:1-18 – Ratifying the Mosaic Covenant with Israel!
Exodus 34:1-18 – Renewing the Mosaic Covenant after Israel repented of their sin!
1Kings 8:35-40 – Dedicating the Temple in Jerusalem by King Solomon, son of David!!

Will Elijah's Restoration Expectation be Fulfilled?

1. The REVELATION of Fire by Yahweh Has Fallen *18:36-38*

The Fire of God Falling from Heaven Represented…

- God's ***holiness made visible*** to the people. *Exodus 3; Isaiah 6; Ezekiel 1; 2Kings 2:11; 6:17; Revelation 1*
- God's ***holy judgment*** on sin and sinners. *Genesis 19:24; Leviticus 10:1-3; 2Kings 1:10-14; cf. Luke 9:54*
- God's ***holy acceptance*** of an acceptable sacrifice in His Name and according to His Word. *Leviticus 9:24; 1Chronicles 21:26; 2Chronicles 7:1*
- God's ***presence*** among His people. *Exodus 13:21-22; 2Kings 2:11; 6:17*
- God's ***visible validation*** of Himself as the LORD and of His mediator and message. *1Kings 18:36-39; 2Kings 2:11*
- God's ***gracious atonement*** for sins. *1Kings 18:36-39; Isaiah 6:6-7*
- God's ***jealous wrath*** poured out on rebels who reject Him and His grace. *1Kgs 18:40; Deuteronomy 4:23-27; Hebrews 10:26-29; 12:18-29; cf. 2Kgs 23:26; 19:17-18. Sadly, the last chapter of 2Kings records the King of Babylon's servant burning Jerusalem & the Temple to the ground (2Kgs 25:9-10).*

2. The <u>REPENTANCE</u> by the People Has Occurred *18:39-40*

King Solomon's Prayer to the LORD at the Dedication of the Temple – *1Kings 8:35-40*

The LORD's Answer to King Solomon's Prayer – *2Chronicles 6:26–7:22*

3. The <u>RENEWAL</u> of the Covenant Needs to Happen *18:41-42a*

4. The <u>REFRESHMENT</u> of the Rain Needs to Come *18:42b-44a*

5. The <u>RETURN</u> of the King Must Take Place *18:44b-46*

The Return of the King Will Bring Times of Refreshing…*or NOT?*

"Now Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me and even more, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.' And he was afraid and arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there." 1Kings 19:1-3

The True King Has Returned, but the Nation of Israel Rejected Him and Still Refuses to Repent, So Their Times of Refreshing Have Not Yet Come!

"Men of Israel…I know you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers did also. But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He has fulfilled. Therefore, repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time. Acts 3:11-4:4

What Should the Church Be Doing as We Wait for the Return of Our King?

1. Continue to <u>REPENT</u> until the King returns. *2Corinthians 12:20-21; 1John 3:1-5*

2. Continue to <u>REMEMBER</u> the New Covenant until the King returns. *Luke 22:14-20; Corinthians 11:23-26*

3. Continue to <u>RUN</u> before the King until the He returns.

- Be the King's Herald: **<u>ANNOUNCE</u>** *the good news of His victory and the coming of His Kingdom to earth!*
- Be the King's Servant: **<u>OBEY</u>** *all of His commands and remove obstacles, so others can meet Him!*

4. Continue to <u>REST</u> on His promises in prayer until the King returns.

5. Continue to <u>REJOICE</u> in the LORD, the Ultimate Promise Keeper, until the King returns.

The LORD Has Promised that…

- The King ***will return!*** *Revelation 19:1-21*
- Israel ***will repent*** right before the King returns! *Romans 11:1-12; Revelation 16:16-21*
- Times of ***refreshing will come*** for Israel and the Nations in the Millennial Kingdom after the King returns! *Revelation 20:1-15; Acts 3:19-21*
- The Church ***will be redeemed*** out of every tribe, nation, people, and language! *Revelation 5:8-10*
- Israel and the Church ***will reign forever*** as one people of God in the New Creation! *Revelation 21:1–22:5*

At Long Last the Return of the King Will Bring Times of Refreshing for His People!

Like Elijah Jesus has come near to all the people and said:
"How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." 1Kings 18:21