

**Victory Connect Lesson
The God of Fire and Rain
Pastor Paul Daugherty
September 17, 2023**

Introduction: God said "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Anything we deem more important than God is an idol, a false God. The fire of God can consume that in our lives which is not of God, but sometimes we carry things that God wants to consume. The cleansing fire of repentance must come before the refreshing rain of His presence.

Key Passage: 1 Kings 18:1-46

1. God sent Elijah to proclaim to Ahab that the long drought would cease and the rain would come again.

[1Ki 18:1 NLT] 1 Later on, in the third year of the drought, the LORD said to Elijah, "Go and present yourself to King Ahab. Tell him that I will soon send rain!"

2. Elijah boldly confronted Ahab at risk of death. [1Ki

18:15 NLT] 15 But Elijah said, "I swear by the LORD Almighty, in whose presence I stand, that I will present myself to Ahab this very day."

3. Elijah boldly challenged Ahab and his false prophets.

[1Ki 18:19 NLT] 19 Now summon all Israel to join me at Mount Carmel, along with the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah who are supported by Jezebel."

4. The fire is a symbol of God's deity, His presence, and His passion. [1Ki 18:24 NLT] 24

Then call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by setting fire to the wood is the true God!" And all the people agreed.

5. The fire of consecration must fall before the rain of benefits. [Act 3:19 KJV] 19

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

6. The fire of God will burn the chaff out of our lives. [Heb 12:29 KJV] 29

For our God [is] a consuming fire.

Discussion Questions:

1. Is there anything you need to throw into the fire?
2. Do you need to repair the altar before the fire falls?
3. Share a time you were refreshed after repentance.

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