

If The Lord Is God

6/21/98

Reading: [1 Kings 18:21](#)

Introduction:

A. An Opinion

1. Theory
2. Guess
3. Information that really has no bearing on life.

B. A Fact

1. Truth
2. Reality
3. Information on which we base our lives.

C. If the Lord is God, follow Him!

1. Baal or The LORD, if one of them is God, follow him.
2. It's not a matter of opinion, but "Stop riding the fence!"
3. "Make up your mind!"
4. Jesus said, "You cannot serve both God and money..."
5. They worshipped God to please the prophets, but worshipped Baal to please Jezebel and curry favor at court.

#1 "But The People Said Nothing"

A. Ever sat back and been a spectator?

1. People watch sports
2. People watch others being beaten
3. Referencing the Rodney King beatings, one man said, "If you see cops beating me, don't go get your video camera, come and help me!"
4. It's the "I don't want to get involved attitude."

B. "They Watched Him closely"

1. [Mark 3:2](#)--...so that they might accuse Him.
2. People listen to preachers that way.
3. People listen to people that way.
4. It's the fault finding attitude.

C. Watching to see who's the winner?

1. "Everyone loves a winner!"
2. Mark McGwire
3. [Mark 4:16-19](#)--The Seed sown on thorny ground or rocky ground choked by problems or cares or persecution.
4. It's the fair-weather-friend attitude.

#2 A Troubler of God's People v.17

A. Elijah?

1. [v. 18](#)--"I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals."
2. Sin brought the fiery serpents upon Israel as they wandered
3. Sin brought death to many in Israel's Army when Achan stole things
4. Sin brought death to everyone by separating them from God.

B. Jesus and The Apostles?

1. Things were stirred up because people didn't want to hear God
 - a. [Acts 17:6](#)--Paul and Silas
 - b. "[Mark 15:13-14](#)--"Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"
2. They didn't want to hear Stephen's words and stoned him.

C. Healing God's people--

1. [1 Kings 18:30](#)--And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was *broken down*.
2. Why had it been broken down? Because they had turned from God
3. [1 Kings 18:37](#)--Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may *know that You are the Lord God*, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again.
4. Is there any OPINION here? just fact, just reality.

#3 "You were not willing"

A. [Matthew 23:37](#)

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

B. In 1 Kings, they became willing!

1. [1 Kings 18:39](#)--"The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"
2. Are you willing to let God lead you?