Pastor Jim Neville

**1 Kings 18:16-46 – *The Fatal Folly of Choosing Lesser gods.***

Elijah and Elisha – Daring Dudes in Dark Days

**1. He is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

God’s patience is apparent in this text – he could have done far worse to his people, but he is bringing them to repentance through Elijah and it was about to come to a climactic conclusion. (18:17-19)

**2. He is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

God does not accept partial worship – you are either all in, or you are not (18:21) (Mt 6:24; Deut 6:47, Mt 22:37-40, Mk 12:30-21, Lk 10:27)

**3. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Putting hope in anything other than God can blind you to what he has done and what he is doing. (18:24)

Those who are desperate will grasp at any straw (other than God) as they cling to false hope (18:26-29)

**4. He is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The power of God defies all human logic and understanding (18:32-38)

-Even when you are outnumbered 450-1, truth is truth.

-Elijah was working under the authority of God (18:36)

-God is acting with a purpose (18:37) - so ***these people will know that you, Lord, are God***, and ***that you are turning their hearts back again***

- Recognition of misplaced hope and idolatry requires repentance and recognition of God’s mercy (18:39-40)

**5. He is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

There are fatal consequences to what we do. God is gracious and loving, but he is also righteous and just. (1 Jn 5:21; Col 3:5; 1 Cor 10:14; Gal 5:19-21)

**Essential Question:** “Who do I think God is and do I act like that is true?”