

## Introduction

- Range of prophets throughout OT
  - quick-fire quiz, name as many as you can!
  - **Elijah** the one who appeared on the mount of transfiguration with Jesus and Moses - representing all that the prophets had spoken of God to God's people...
- Recap story of this incident with pictures:
  - Obadiah tells Ahab Elijah will meet him
  - Elijah confronts the king, and calls the meeting on Mount Carmel
  - Elijah lays down the challenge...
  - Elijah mocks the prophet's of Baal's failure
  - Elijah instructs the building of an altar to the Lord
  - Elijah makes the challenge harder (water in a drought!)
  - God wins....

### Spoke God's word

- (17:2, 8; 18:1)
  - but note how God put/pushed him into situations, then left him to stand up for God himself there...
  - kind of like "here is the area into which you need to speak my word into"... "but what do you want me to say?"... "You can figure that out yourself easily enough!"

### Spoke to honour God

- In other words his concern, his passion, was that the fundamental revelation of God as creator, majestic Lord, one who is king, who demands our absolute loyalty, and deserves our total worship - that that revelation be lived in God's people's lives...

### Spoke to challenge human rebellion

- In Elijah's case both King Ahab (17:1 etc) and the people (18:21, 37)

### Spoke with boldness

- And some - (18:27!)

### Spoke with compassion

- Desiring reconciliation of God and his people, not that God would break-out against them

### Spoke out of a personal relationship

- Attentive to God's voice
  - known for being sensitive to God (18:12, or 17:1)

## The Prophet

- Speaks to bring people (back) to a living, vital, whole-hearted relationship with God
  - there may be supernatural revelation involved
  - there may be supernatural intervention involved
  - there may be supernatural courage involved
- Are we attentive to him speaking to us today?
  - *Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts (Psalm 95:7,8, and quoted in Hebrews 3 & 4)*
- Are we ready to speak with prophetic power?
  - *It was he who gave ... some to be prophets... (Ephesians 4:11, 1 Cor 14:29, etc!)*