

Introduction

- I. Elijah, Ahab, the prophets of Baal (450), the prophets of the groves (400), and others of Israel were assembled on Mt. Carmel.
- II. Before the great contest begins, Elijah preaches a sermon.

**The Prophet Standing for Jehovah
(6) The Challenge**

I. The Idea

- A. Elijah identifies the main sin of the people of Israel: halting between two opinions.
 1. They had tried to hold onto two truth claims and said there is room for both in Israel.
 2. This is a word the church desperately needs to hear today.
- B. Elijah launched a full frontal assault on this thinking with the challenge: "if Jehovah is the God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him." Elijah is showing what they are doing is untenable.

II. The Command

- A. Through Elijah, God calls His church to reject Baal and not follow him because he is not god.
- B. We are called to follow Him alone. We are called to trust and obey because He alone is God.

III. The Response

- A. The response of the people was silence: "and the people answered him not a word." Why?
- B. Let there be no silence here tonight in response to this word, but doing!