

SERMON NOTES

ALTAR OF PRAYER

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Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down.

Key Scripture: 1 Kings 18:30

I. The Altar: A Place of Sacrifice, Worship, and Covenant

1. Elijah and the Broken Altar

- **1 Kings 18:30-37** - Elijah repairs the altar of the Lord on Mount Carmel.

2. Noah's Altar After the Flood

- **Genesis 8:20-22** - God makes a covenant to never again destroy the earth in the same way.

3. Abraham's Altars

- **Genesis 12:7-8** - Abraham builds an altar wherever God appears to him.

4. Jacob's Encounter with God

- **Genesis 28:12-19** - Marks the place (Bethel) and sets up a pillar, later returning to build an altar.

II. The Secret Place:

Personal Communion in Prayer

5. Abiding in the Shadow of the Almighty

- **Psalms 91:1** - The secret place is a spiritual dwelling of intimacy and security.
- It is where we experience God's protection, presence, and peace.

6. Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

- **Matthew 6:6** - Emphasis on private, sincere communication with God.
- Prayer is not for show, but for relationship.

III. Jesus' Example:

A Life of Solitary Prayer

7. Seeking Solitude in the Storm

- **Matthew 14:23** - Jesus withdraws to pray after ministering to the multitudes.

8. Rising Early to Pray

- **Mark 1:35** - Jesus rises before daybreak to find a solitary place for prayer.

9. Departing to a Desert Place

- **Luke 4:42** - He finds quiet spaces to be alone with the Father.

10. Withdraws to Pray Often

- **Luke 5:16** - Consistency in secret prayer fueled His public ministry.
- Establish sacred spaces: Make time and room for God in your daily routine. Follow Christ's pattern: Consistent, early, solitary, sincere prayer cultivates power and peace.