

## Elder Bobby Willis



**“We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle”**  
(Hebrews 13:10)

There have been many altars down through the existence of man as is indicated by its being referred to some 364 times in the Bible. Many of them in the Old Testament were used for burnt offerings, meat offerings, or peace offerings unto the Lord. Some were altars of Baal which Gideon, for one, was instructed to **“throw down”** (Judges 6:25).

Another notable occasion of an altar being in the forefront is found in I Kings Chapter 18, beginning in verse 21 through verse 40. The prophet Elijah **“came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word”** (I Kings 18:21). Most all Bible readers know well the rendering of Elijah and the 450 prophets of Baal as they were instructed by Elijah to place a bullock on an altar as he would also do, and afterwards call upon their gods and he calling on the name of the Lord, they would see which gods or God would answer by fire upon the altar. Refresh your memory by reading this account and see once again the Sovereignty and Power of the one true and living God.

Returning our thoughts to verse 21, Elijah had said - **“How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.”** This statement by Elijah points us to Hebrews 13:10. We indeed have an altar, but it is not made of wood or stone. Our altar is the Lord Jesus Christ and we are to come unto Him in reverence and humility, offering our bodies (our selves) as a **“living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service”** (Romans 12:1). Offering ourselves unto any one or any thing else other than our Lord and Saviour is just as abominable as what the prophets of Baal did in I Kings 18.

The latter part of Hebrews 13:10 says, **“whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.”** Paul is admonishing and instructing those believers who were attempting to return in part to the old law service, that they would lose the joys of their salvation and the rights to God’s blessings. To partake of Christ, is to exercise fully the faith we have which cannot be done by holding on to the old law service.

May we understand fully what it is to come to our altar (Christ), as it is He which says, **“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest”** (Matthew 11:28). Then again in John 6:35 we find these words of comfort, **“I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst”** (John 6:35). Earlier in Hebrews 4:16 Paul said, **“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”**

**“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things”** (I Corinthians 4:6). It is indeed good for us to **“Think About It”!**