

Restoration of the Altar

1 Kng 18:30 — Elijah restored the altar and all the people of God came to him. He restored the altar of Yahweh which was *in ruins*. Elijah took twelve stones according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob — to whom the word of Yahweh came, saying, “*Israel* shall be your name.” Each stone represented one of the tribes of Israel. There are twelve tribes.

Israel is Israel only as twelve tribes collectively. Israel is Israel only as a completed whole — without division — in every place (Mal 1:11). Israel is a name given to twelve tribes. Your name shall be Israel, and Israel is the twelve tribes of the sons of Jacob, and Jacob had twelve sons. The only way Yahweh could hear and answer Elijah’s prayer is that the altar be restored — since Israel was divided and destroyed as long as Israel was not *one*. Israel is Israel only as a completed whole (Gen 35:10).

Elijah was known to be the prophet who would restore Israel (Ecc’cus 48:10-11), that he would come at the appointed time in history to allay the wrath of God before its final fury, to reconcile father and son and to restore the tribes of Jacob. Happy or blessed will be those who saw him and were honored with his love (Isa 49:5-6; Mal 4:5-6; Mt 17:11; Mk 9:11-12; Lk 1:17).

1 Kng 18:31 — Elijah called for covenant unity for all Israel — as the people of God — which can be expressed in no other way except *oneness of heart and purpose* as a twelve-tribed nation of Yahweh, Israel’s Redeemer and Restorer. Isa 49:6 — is prophecy yet to be fulfilled by the nation of Mt 21:43 to bring about the covenant promise to Abraham (Gen 15:18; 18:19), through Abraham’s spiritual seed (Gal 3:16,19,27). 1 Kng 18:38-39 — Elijah comes to prove who is Yahweh, the true Elohim. Elijah does this by restoring the twelve tribes of Israel, the witness, the Edah — the Body of Messiah.