

# 1 Kings 18:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

## Analysis

---

**And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Elijah and the prophets of Baal, within the book's focus on prophetic ministry of Elijah confronting Baalism. The prophetic office represents God's faithful witness even in apostasy, calling His people back to covenant faithfulness.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

## Historical Context

---

First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. Elijah's ministry (c. 860-850 BCE) occurred during Ahab's reign, a

time of intense spiritual crisis in Israel.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

## Related Passages

---

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this passage illustrate the importance of complete obedience to God's word without compromise?
2. What does Elijah's ministry reveal about God's character and His commitment to His covenant people?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

---

וַיְהִי י	בַּצֶּהֶר יָם	לִיְהִי ל	בָּהֶם ׀	אֵלֵי הוּא	וַיֹּאמְרוּ		
H1961	And it came to pass at noon	mocked	H0	that Elijah	them and said		
	H6672	H2048		H452	H559		
וַיִּקְרָא ו	בְּקוֹל	גָּדוֹל	כִּי	אֱלֹהֵי יָם	הוּא	כִּי י	שׁוֹמֵר
Cry	H6963	aloud	H3588	for he is a god	H1931	H3588	either he is talking
H7121		H1419		H430			H7879
וַיְהִי	שׁוֹמֵר	ל ו	וַיְהִי	דָּרָךְ	ל ו	אוֹלָם	
H3588	or he is pursuing	H0	H3588	or he is in a journey	H0	or peradventure	
	H7873			H1870		H194	
וַיִּשָּׁן ׀	הוּא	וַיִּקְרָא:					
he sleepeth	H1931	and must be awaked					
H3463		H3364					

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Isaiah 41:23** (References God): Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.