

# 1 Kings 18:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

## Analysis

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**And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.**

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 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

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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

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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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

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וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיַּשְׁנּוּ ו	וַיַּשְׁנּוּ ו
And he said	And they did it the second time	And they did it the second time
H559	H8138	H8138
וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיַּשְׁלֹשׁוּ:	וַיַּשְׁלֹשׁוּ:
And he said	And they did it the third time	And they did it the third time
H559	H8027	H8027

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