

AGUDAS
ACHIM
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CARNIVAL

Sunday,
March 24



FROM THE RABBI
Esther Hugenholtz

Not Either/Or but And/And

Sometimes a Haftarah hits the spot, like last week's (I Kings 18:1 - 18:39). It's an epic showdown between a tempestuous Prophet Elijah and the pagan Priests of the Canaanite storm god Ba'al—the kind of face-off that would work well in a reality show or a gangster movie. With bravado, Elijah

serious. I'm secretly convinced that there's humor in the Bible (and Talmud). The account is so over-the-top that one can't help but crack a smile. On the other hand, it is a distasteful display of theological supremacy. If organized religion is like that, many of us might think, well... count me out.

Still, there's an interesting lesson there. While I