

~**ELISHA (1777)**

(E-li'sha) [God Is Salvation]

- **Succeeds Elijah**
- **Heals Naaman**
- **Israel Delivered From Syria**
- **What Sort Of Blindness Did Yehowah Strike The Syrians With**
- **Hazael, Jehu, Named As Kings**
- **Baal Worship Destroyed**
- **Work Accomplished**

- The son of Shaphat and a prophet of Yehowah in the **Tenth and Ninth Centuries B.C.E.**, successor to the prophet Elijah. Elijah was directed by Yehowah to anoint **Elisha** from Abel-meholah. Finding **Elisha** plowing, Elijah threw his official garment over him, designating an appointment.
- And Jehu the grandson of Nimshi you should anoint as king over Israel, and **Elisha** the son of Shaphat from Abel-meholah you should anoint as prophet in place of you. (**1 Kings 19:16**)
- **Elisha** was plowing behind 12 spans of bulls, and he with the twelfth. It is of interest that in the **19th Century William Thomson** in **The Land and the Book [1887, p. 144]** reported that it was a custom among the Arabs to work together with their small plows, and one sower could easily sow all that they plowed in a day.
- **Elisha**, in the rear of the group, would be able to stop without disrupting the work of the rest. The fact that he sacrificed a span of the bulls and used the implements as fuel speaks for **Elisha's** promptness, decisiveness, and appreciativeness for Yehowah's call. After preparing a meal, **Elisha** immediately left to follow Elijah.
- Accordingly he went from there and found **Elisha** the son of Shaphat while he was plowing with twelve spans before him, and he with the twelfth. So Elijah crossed over to him and threw his official garment upon him. (**1 Kings 19:19**)
- At that he left the bulls and went running after Elijah and said; Let me, please, kiss my father and my mother. Then I will go following you. At this he said to him; Go, return, for what have I done to you? (**1 Kings 19:20**)

- So he returned from following him and then took a span of the bulls and sacrificed them, and with the implements of the bulls he boiled their flesh and then gave it to the people, and they proceeded to eat. After that he rose up and went following Elijah and began to minister to him. (**1 Kings 19:21**)
- For perhaps six years **Elisha** served as Elijah's attendant. **Elijah** served as head prophet, and **Elisha** worked closely with him, being known as the one who poured out water upon the hands of **Elijah** when **Elijah** washed his hands.
- Then the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came out to **Elisha** and said to him; Do you really know that today Yehowah is taking your master from headship over you? At this he said; I, too, well know it. Be silent. (**2 Kings 2:3**)
- Elijah now said to him; **Elisha**, sit here, please, because Yehowah himself has sent me to Jericho. But he said; As Yehowah is living and as your soul is living, I will not leave you. So they came on to Jericho. (**2 Kings 2:4**)
- Then the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho approached **Elisha** and said to him; Do you really know that today Yehowah is taking your master from headship over you? At this he said; I, too, well know it. Be silent. (**2 Kings 2:5**)
- At that Jehoshaphat said; Is there not here a prophet of Yehowah? Then let us inquire of Yehowah through him. So one of the servants of the king of Israel answered and said; There is here **Elisha** the son of Shaphat, who poured out water upon the hands of Elijah. (**2 Kings 3:11**)
- **Elisha**, from the time he joined Elijah, did prophetic work in Israel during the reigns of Kings Ahab, Ahaziah, Jehoram, Jehu, and on into the reign of Jehoash.
- Ruling at this time in Judah were Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Ahaziah, Athaliah, Jehoash, and, likely, Amaziah. **Elisha** enjoyed about 60 years of ministry by himself after Elijah's departure.
- The record of **Elisha's** prophetic activity in Second Kings does not appear to be altogether in chronological order. For example, in (**2 Kings Chapter 5**), Gehazi is struck with leprosy, which would exclude him from normal society.

- Yet, in **(2 Kings Chapter 8)** he is speaking in a friendly way to Jehoram of Israel. Also, the death of King Jehoash of Israel is recorded in **(2 Kings Chapter 13)**, but this is followed by a record of his last interview with **Elisha**.
- As for the rest of the affairs of Jehoash and all that he did and his mightiness and how he fought against Amaziah the king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel? **(2 Kings 13:12)**
- Finally Jehoash lay down with his forefathers, and Jeroboam himself sat upon his throne. In turn Jehoash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel. **(2 Kings 13:13)**
- As regards **Elisha**, he had taken sick with the sickness with which he was to die. So Jehoash the king of Israel came down to him and began to weep over his face and say; My father, my father, the war chariot of Israel and his horsemen! **(2 Kings 13:14)**
- And **Elisha** proceeded to say to him; Take a bow and arrows. So he took to himself a bow and arrows. **(2 Kings 13:15)**
- And he went on to say to the king of Israel; Put your hand to the bow. Accordingly he put his hand to it, after which **Elisha** laid his hands upon the hands of the king. **(2 Kings 13:16)**
- Then he said; Open the window to the east. So he opened it. Finally **Elisha** said; Shoot! So he shot. He now said; Yehowah's arrow of salvation, even the arrow of salvation against Syria! And you will certainly strike down Syria at Aphek to the finishing point. **(2 Kings 13:17)**
- And he went on to say; Take the arrows. At that he took them. Then he said to the king of Israel; Strike on the earth. So he struck three times and stopped. **(2 Kings 13:18)**
- And the man of the true God grew indignant at him, hence he said; It was meant to strike five or six times! In that case you would certainly be striking down Syria to the finishing point, but now it is three times that you will strike down Syria. **(2 Kings 13:19)**
- After that **Elisha** died and they buried him. And there were

marauding bands of the Moabites that regularly came into the land at the coming in of the year. (2 Kings 13:20)

- And it came about that as they were burying a man, why, here they saw the marauding band. At once they threw the man into **Elisha's** burial place and went off. When the man touched the bones of **Elisha**, he immediately came to life and stood upon his feet. (2 Kings 13:21)
- In some parts of the account the works and miracles of **Elisha** seem to be grouped according to their nature or likeness, for example:
 - Those that were for the good of the prophets and private persons;
 - And it came about that as they were burying a man, why, here they saw the marauding band. At once they threw the man into **Elisha's** burial place and went off. When the man touched the bones of **Elisha**, he immediately came to life and stood upon his feet. (2 Kings 13:21)
 - Those that had to do with the nation and the king.
 - And it came about that as they were burying a man, why, here they saw the marauding band. At once they threw the man into **Elisha's** burial place and went off. When the man touched the bones of **Elisha**, he immediately came to life and stood upon his feet. (2 Kings 13:21)

•• Succeeds Elijah

Elisha's activity as successor to **Elijah** commences about 917 B.C.E. or shortly thereafter, at the time of **Elijah's** ascension in a windstorm to the heavens.

- And he gradually died, according to the word of Yehowah that Elijah had spoken, and Jehoram began to reign in place of him, in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, because he had not come to have a son. (2 Kings 1:17)
- And it came about that when Yehowah was to take Elijah in a windstorm up to the heavens, Elijah and **Elisha** proceeded to go from Gilgal. (2 Kings 2:1)

- And it came about that as they were walking along, speaking as they walked, why, look! A fiery war chariot and fiery horses, and they proceeded to make a separation between them both, and Elijah went ascending in the windstorm to the heavens. (2 Kings 2:11)
- All the while **Elisha** was seeing it, and he was crying out; My father, my father, the war chariot of Israel and his horsemen! And he did not see him anymore. Consequently he took hold of his own garments and ripped them into two pieces. (2 Kings 2:12)
- Before Elijah leaves, **Elisha** asks him for two parts in his spirit, that is, a double part, which was due the firstborn son. This position he occupies because of his official appointment as Elijah's successor at the time that Elijah threw his official garment over him.
- And it came about that as soon as they had gone across Elijah himself said to **Elisha**; Ask what I should do for you before I am taken from you. To this **Elisha** said; Please, that two parts in your spirit may come to me. (2 Kings 2:9)
- Elijah, realizing that this is not his to give, tells **Elisha** that, if he sees Elijah when taken from him, his desire will be granted. Yehowah confirms this by permitting **Elisha** to see Elijah ascend in a windstorm to the heavens.
- As Elijah departs, his rough mantle, his official garment, falls from him. **Elisha** picks it up, thereby identifying himself as Elijah's successor. At the shore of the Jordan River, Yehowah shows that he is with **Elisha** when he miraculously divides the Jordan waters as **Elisha** strikes them with the garment.
- And it came about that as soon as they had gone across Elijah himself said to **Elisha**; Ask what I should do for you before I am taken from you. To this **Elisha** said; Please, that two parts in your spirit may come to me. (2 Kings 2:9)
- At that he said; You have asked a difficult thing. If you see me when taken from you, it will happen to you that way, but if you do not, it will not happen. (2 Kings 2:10)
- And it came about that as they were walking along, speaking as they walked, why, look! A fiery war chariot and fiery horses, and

they proceeded to make a separation between them both, and Elijah went ascending in the windstorm to the heavens. (2 Kings 2:11)

- All the while **Elisha** was seeing it, and he was crying out; My father, my father, the war chariot of Israel and his horsemen! And he did not see him anymore. Consequently he took hold of his own garments and ripped them into two pieces. (2 Kings 2:12)
- After that he picked up the official garment of Elijah that had fallen off him, and went back and stood by the shore of the Jordan. (2 Kings 2:13)
- Then he took the official garment of Elijah that had fallen off him and struck the waters and said; Where is Yehowah the God of Elijah, even He? When he struck the waters, then they were gradually divided this way and that way, so that **Elisha** went across. (2 Kings 2:14)
- When the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho saw him some way off, they began to say; The spirit of Elijah has settled down upon **Elisha**. Accordingly they came to meet him and bowed down to him to the earth. (2 Kings 2:15)
- Crossing the Jordan, **Elisha** returns to the group of the sons of the prophets at Jericho. Further establishing **Elisha** as the head of God's company of prophets is his healing of the water supply of the city of Jericho, which has been bad and has been causing miscarriages. Going to the source of the water, he throws salt from a small new bowl into it, and the water continues healed down to this day.
- In time the men of the city said to **Elisha**; Here, now, the situation of the city is good, just as my master is seeing, but the water is bad, and the land is causing miscarriages. (2 Kings 2:19)
- At that he said; Fetch me a small new bowl and put salt in it. So they fetched it for him. (2 Kings 2:20)
- Then he went on out to the source of the water and threw salt in it and said; This is what Yehowah has said; I do make this water healthful. No more will death or any causing of miscarriages result from it. (2 Kings 2:21)

- **And the water continues healed down to this day, according to **Elisha's** word that he spoke. (2 Kings 2:22)**
- **From Jericho, **Elisha** climbs to Bethel, about 900 meters (3,000 feet) above sea level, where he had previously visited a group of the sons of the prophets in company with Elijah.**
- **Then the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came out to **Elisha** and said to him; Do you really know that today Yehowah is taking your master from headship over you? At this he said; I, too, well know it. Be silent. (2 Kings 2:3)**
- **On the way, a band of juvenile delinquents comes out and shows great disrespect both to him and his office as prophet. Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead! They jeer. They mean for him either to keep on going up to Bethel or to get off the earth just as his predecessor was supposed to have done.**
- **And it came about that as they were walking along, speaking as they walked, why, look! A fiery war chariot and fiery horses, and they proceeded to make a separation between them both, and Elijah went ascending in the windstorm to the heavens. (2 Kings 2:11)**
- **To teach these boys and their parents respect for the prophet of Yehowah, he turns and calls down evil upon them in Yehowah's name. Suddenly two she-bears come out from the woods and tear to pieces 42 of their number.**
- **And he proceeded to go up from there to Bethel. As he was going up on the way, there were small boys that came out from the city and began to jeer him and that kept saying to him; Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead! (2 Kings 2:23)**
- **Finally he turned behind him and saw them and called down evil upon them in the name of Yehowah. Then two she-bears came out from the woods and went tearing to pieces forty-two children of their number. (2 Kings 2:24)**
- **King Jehoram of Israel, King Jehoshaphat of Judah, and the king of Edom become trapped in a waterless wilderness during an expedition to put down a revolt by King Mesha of Moab, who erected what has been called the Moabite Stone.**

- King Jehoshaphat calls for a prophet of God. Not for Jehoram's benefit, but out of respect for Jehoshaphat, who is in Yehowah's favor, **Elisha** calls for a stringed instrument player, that under the influence of music he may receive inspiration from Yehowah.
- It is after that that you will come to the hill of the true God, where there is a garrison of the Philistines. And it should come about that at the time of your coming there to the city, you will certainly meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place, and ahead of them a stringed instrument and tambourine and flute and harp, while they are speaking as prophets. (**1 Samuel 10:5**)
- And the spirit of Yehowah will certainly become operative upon you, and you will certainly speak as a prophet along with them and be changed into another man. (**1 Samuel 10:6**)
- Elisha** has the people dig ditches. The next morning they are full of water. As the early morning sun shines upon the water in the ditches it appears to the Moabites to be blood.
- Thinking that Israel and their allies have been slaughtered in confused fighting among themselves, the Moabites rush in to carry away the booty. But to their surprise Israel rises up and defeats them.
- As regards Mesha the king of Moab, he became a sheep raiser, and he paid to the king of Israel a hundred thousand lambs and a hundred thousand unshorn male sheep. (**2 Kings 3:4**)
- And it came about that as soon as Ahab died, the king of Moab began to revolt against the king of Israel. (**2 Kings 3:5**)
- Consequently King Jehoram went out on that day from Samaria and mustered all Israel. (**2 Kings 3:6**)
- He went farther and now sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying; The king of Moab himself has revolted against me. Will you go with me to Moab in war? To this he said; I shall go. I am the same as you are, my people are the same as your people, my horses are the same as your horses. (**2 Kings 3:7**)
- And he went on to say; By which particular way shall we go up? So he said; By the way of the wilderness of Edom. (**2 Kings 3:8**)

- **And the king of Israel and the king of Judah and the king of Edom proceeded to go, and they kept going their way around for seven days, and there proved to be no water for the camp and for the domestic animals that were following their steps. (2 Kings 3:9)**
- **At length the king of Israel said; How unfortunate that Yehowah has called these three kings to give them into the hand of Moab! (2 Kings 3:10)**
- **At that Jehoshaphat said; Is there not here a prophet of Yehowah? Then let us inquire of Yehowah through him. So one of the servants of the king of Israel answered and said; There is here **Elisha** the son of Shaphat, who poured out water upon the hands of Elijah. (2 Kings 3:11)**
- **Then Jehoshaphat said; The word of Yehowah exists with him. Accordingly the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him. (2 Kings 3:12)**
- **And **Elisha** proceeded to say to the king of Israel; What do I have to do with you? Go to the prophets of your father and to the prophets of your mother. But the king of Israel said to him; No, for Yehowah has called these three kings to give them into the hand of Moab. (2 Kings 3:13)**
- **To this **Elisha** said; As Yehowah of armies before whom I do stand is living, if it were not that it is the face of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah for which I am having consideration, I would not look at you or see you. (2 Kings 3:14)**
- **And now you men fetch me a string-instrument player. And it occurred that, as soon as the string-instrument player played, the hand of Yehowah came to be upon him. (2 Kings 3:15)**
- **And he went on to say; This is what Yehowah has said; Let there be a making of this torrent valley full of ditches. (2 Kings 3:16)**
- **For this is what Yehowah has said; You men will not see a wind, and you will not see a downpour, yet that torrent valley will be filled with water, and you men will certainly drink from it, you and your livestock and your domestic animals. (2 Kings 3:17)**
- **And this will indeed be a trivial thing in the eyes of Yehowah, and**

he will certainly give Moab into your hand. (2 Kings 3:18)

- **And you must strike down every fortified city and every choice city, and every good tree you should fell, and all the springs of water you should stop up, and every good tract of land you should mar with stones. (2 Kings 3:19)**
- **And it came about in the morning, at the time of the going up of the grain offering, that, look! Water was coming from the direction of Edom, and the land came to be filled with the water. (2 Kings 3:20)**
- **As regards all the Moabites, they heard that the kings had come up to fight against them. Consequently they called together men from as many as were girding on a belt and upward, and they began standing at the boundary. (2 Kings 3:21)**
- **When they got up early in the morning, the sun itself flashed upon the water, so that the Moabites from the opposite side saw the water red like blood. (2 Kings 3:22)**
- **And they began to say; This is blood! The kings have unquestionably been put to the sword, and they went striking one another down. So now, to the spoil, O Moab! (2 Kings 3:23)**
- **When they came into the camp of Israel, the Israelites immediately rose up and began striking the Moabites down so that they took to flight from before them. Hence they came into Moab, striking the Moabites down as they came. (2 Kings 3:24)**
- **And the cities they went throwing down, and, as for every good tract of land, they would pitch each one his stone and actually fill it, and every spring of water they would stop up, and every good tree they would fell, until they left only the stones of Kir-hareseth remaining in it, and the slingers began going around it and striking it down. (2 Kings 3:25)**
- **When the king of Moab saw that the battle had proved too strong for him, he at once took with him seven hundred men drawing sword to break through to the king of Edom, but they were not able to. (2 Kings 3:26)**
- **Finally he took his firstborn son who was going to reign in place of him and offered him up as a burnt sacrifice upon the wall. And**

there came to be great indignation against Israel, so that they pulled away from against him and returned to their land. (2 Kings 3:27)

- This event takes place between 917 B.C.E. and 913 B.C.E.
- A series of miracles of a domestic nature now appear in Elisha's record. A widow of one of the former sons of the prophets is in dire need. Elisha miraculously multiplies her meager oil supply and saves her sons from being taken into slavery to her creditor.
- Now there was a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets that cried out to Elisha, saying; Your servant, my husband, is dead, and you yourself well know that your own servant had continually feared Yehowah, and the creditor himself has come to take both my children for his slaves. (2 Kings 4:1)
- At this Elisha said to her; What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house? To this she said; Your maidservant has nothing at all in the house but a spouted jar of oil. (2 Kings 4:2)
- Then he said; Go, ask for vessels for yourself from outside, from all your neighbors, empty vessels. Do not hold yourself to a few. (2 Kings 4:3)
- And you must go and close the door behind yourself and your sons, and you must pour out into all these vessels, and the full ones you should set aside. (2 Kings 4:4)
- Upon that she went away from him. When she closed the door behind herself and her sons, they were bringing the vessels near to her, and she was doing the pouring out. (2 Kings 4:5)
- And it came about that as soon as the vessels were full she went on to say to her son; Do bring still another vessel near to me. But he said to her; There is no other vessel. At that the oil stopped. (2 Kings 4:6)
- So she came in and told the man of the true God, and he now said; Go, sell the oil and pay off your debts, and you and your sons should live from what is left. (2 Kings 4:7)

- **This miracle is parallel to the second miracle of Elijah, where he multiplied the flour and oil of the widow of Zarephath.**
- **The word of Yehowah now came to him, saying; (1 Kings 17:8)**
- **Rise up, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and you must dwell there. Look! I shall certainly command there a woman, a widow, to supply you food. (1 Kings 17:9)**
- **Accordingly he rose up and went to Zarephath and came into the entrance of the city, and, look! A woman, a widow, was there gathering up pieces of wood. So he called to her and said, Please, get me a sip of water in a vessel that I may drink. (1 Kings 17:10)**
- **When she began to go and get it, he went on to call to her and say; Please, get me a bit of bread in your hand. (1 Kings 17:11)**
- **At this she said; As Yehowah your God is living, I have no round cake, but a handful of flour in the large jar and a little oil in the small jar, and here I am gathering up a few pieces of wood, and I must go in and make something for myself and my son, and we shall have to eat it and die. (1 Kings 17:12)**
- **Then Elijah said to her; Do not be afraid. Go in, do according to your word. Only from what is there make me a small round cake first, and you must bring it out to me, and for yourself and your son you can make something afterward. (1 Kings 17:13)**
- **For this is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; The large jar of flour itself will not get exhausted, and the small jar of oil itself will not fail until the day of Yehowah's giving a downpour upon the surface of the ground. (1 Kings 17:14)**
- **So she went and did according to Elijah's word, and she continued to eat, she together with him and her household, for days. (1 Kings 17:15)**
- **The large jar of flour itself did not get exhausted, and the small jar of oil itself did not fail, according to Yehowah's word that he had spoken by means of Elijah. (1 Kings 17:16)**
- **At Shunem in the Valley of Jezreel a prominent woman shows unusual hospitality to Elisha because she recognizes him as a holy man**

of God, even providing a room for him as he frequently passes by her home.

- For her kindness **Elisha** promises her a son, though her husband at that time is old. True to his promise, a son is born about a year later, but he dies while still a child. **Elisha** now performs his first resurrection, bringing the boy back to life as Elijah similarly raised the son of the widow in Zarephath.
- And it came about one day that **Elisha** went passing along to Shunem, where there was a prominent woman, and she began to constrain him to eat bread. And it came about that as often as he would pass by, he would turn aside there to eat bread. (**2 Kings 4:8**)
- At length she said to her husband; Here, now, I well know that it is a holy man of God that is passing by us constantly. (**2 Kings 4:9**)
- Please, let us make a little roof chamber on the wall and put there for him a couch and a table and a chair and a lampstand, and it must occur that whenever he comes in to us he can turn aside there. (**2 Kings 4:10**)
- And it came about one day that as usual he came in there and turned aside to the roof chamber and lay down there. (**2 Kings 4:11**)
- So he said to Gehazi his attendant; Call this Shunammite woman. At that he called her that she might stand before him. (**2 Kings 4:12**)
- Then he said to him; Please, say to her, Here you have restricted yourself for us with all this restriction. What is there to be done for you? Is there anything to speak to the king or to the chief of the army for you? To this she said; In among my own people I am dwelling. (**2 Kings 4:13**)
- And he went on to say; What, then, is there to be done for her? Gehazi now said; For a fact, a son she does not have, and her husband is old. (**2 Kings 4:14**)
- Immediately he said; Call her. So he called her, and she kept standing at the entrance. (**2 Kings 4:15**)

- **Then he said; At this appointed time next year you will be embracing a son. But she said; No, my master, O man of the true God! Do not tell lies in connection with your maidservant. (2 Kings 4:16)**
- **However, the woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son at this appointed time the next year, just as Elisha had spoken to her. (2 Kings 4:17)**
- **And the child kept on growing up, and it came about one day that he went out as usual to his father with the reapers. (2 Kings 4:18)**
- **And he kept saying to his father; My head, O my head! At last he said to the attendant; Carry him to his mother. (2 Kings 4:19)**
- **Accordingly he carried him and brought him to his mother. And he kept sitting upon her knees until noon, and gradually he died. (2 Kings 4:20)**
- **Then she went up and laid him upon the couch of the man of the true God and closed the door upon him and went out. (2 Kings 4:21)**
- **She now called her husband and said; Do send me, please, one of the attendants and one of the she-asses, and let me run as far as the man of the true God and return. (2 Kings 4:22)**
- **But he said; Why are you going to him today? It is not a new moon nor a Sabbath. However, she said; It is all right. (2 Kings 4:23)**
- **So she saddled up the she-ass and said to her attendant; Drive and go ahead. Do not hold back for my sake from riding unless I shall have said so to you. (2 Kings 4:24)**
- **And she proceeded to go and come to the man of the true God at Mount Carmel. And it came about that, as soon as the man of the true God saw her out ahead, he immediately said to Gehazi his attendant; Look! The Shunammite woman over there. (2 Kings 4:25)**
- **Now run, please, to meet her and say to her; Is it all right with**

- you? Is it all right with your husband? Is it all right with the child? To this she said; It is all right. (2 Kings 4:26)
- When she came to the man of the true God at the mountain, she at once took hold of him by his feet. At this Gehazi came near to push her away, but the man of the true God said; Let her alone, for her soul is bitter within her, and Yehowah himself has hidden it from me and not told me. (2 Kings 4:27)
 - She now said; Did I ask for a son through my lord? Did I not say; You must not lead me to a false hope? (2 Kings 4:28)
 - Immediately he said to Gehazi; Gird up your loins and take my staff in your hand and go. In case you encounter anyone, you must not greet him, and in case anyone should greet you, you must not answer him. And you must place my staff upon the face of the boy. (2 Kings 4:29)
 - At this the mother of the boy said; As Yehowah is living and as your soul is living, I will not leave you. Therefore he got up and went with her. (2 Kings 4:30)
 - And Gehazi himself passed along before them and then put the staff upon the boys face, but there was no voice nor paying of attention. So he went back to meet him and told him, saying, The boy did not wake up. (2 Kings 4:31)
 - At last **Elisha** came into the house, and there the boy was dead, being laid upon his couch. (2 Kings 4:32)
 - Then he came in and closed the door behind them both and began to pray to Yehowah. (2 Kings 4:33)
 - Finally he went up and lay down upon the child and put his own mouth upon his mouth and his own eyes upon his eyes and his own palms upon his palms and kept bent over him, and gradually the child's flesh grew warm. (2 Kings 4:34)
 - Then he began walking again in the house, once this way and once that way, after which he went up and bent over him. And the boy began to sneeze as many as seven times, after which the boy opened his eyes. (2 Kings 4:35)
 - He now called Gehazi and said; Call this Shunammite woman.

So he called her and she came in to him. Then he said; Lift up your son. (2 Kings 4:36)

- And she proceeded to come in and fall at his feet and bow down to him to the earth, after which she lifted up her son and went out. (2 Kings 4:37)
- And it came about after these things that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick, and his sickness came to be so severe that there was no breath left in him. (1 Kings 17:17)
- At this she said to Elijah; What do I have to do with you, O man of the true God? You have come to me to bring my error to mind and to put my son to death. (1 Kings 17:18)
- But he said to her; Give me your son. Then he took him from her bosom and carried him up to the roof chamber, where he was dwelling, and laid him upon his own couch. (1 Kings 17:19)
- And he began calling to Yehowah and saying; O Yehowah my God, is it also upon the widow with whom I am residing as an alien that you must bring injury by putting her son to death? (1 Kings 17:20)
- And he proceeded to stretch himself upon the child three times and call to Yehowah and say; O Yehowah my God, please, cause the soul of this child to come back within him. (1 Kings 17:21)
- Finally Yehowah listened to Elijah's voice, so that the soul of the child came back within him and he came to life. (1 Kings 17:22)
- Elijah now took the child and brought him down from the roof chamber into the house and gave him to his mother, and Elijah then said; See, your son is alive. (1 Kings 17:23)
- Upon that the woman said to Elijah; Now, indeed, I do know that you are a man of God and that Yehowah's word in your mouth is true. (1 Kings 17:24)
- For her kindness to a prophet of God, she is richly rewarded.
- He that receives a prophet because he is a prophet will get a prophets reward, and he that receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will get a righteous man's reward.

(Matthew 10:41)

- **Elisha** returns to Gilgal, North of Bethel in the mountains, to the sons of the prophets there. A famine is on. As a stew is being prepared someone unwittingly puts in some poisonous gourds. Immediately upon tasting the stew, they shout.
- There is death in the pot, O man of the true God. Since it would not do to waste food during the famine, **Elisha** calls for some flour, putting it into the pot and making the stew edible so that nothing injurious proves to be in the pot.
- And **Elisha** himself returned to Gilgal, and there was famine in the land. As the sons of the prophets were sitting before him, he in time said to his attendant; Put the large cooking pot on and boil stew for the sons of the prophets. (2 Kings 4:38)
- Accordingly a certain one went out to the field to pick mallows, and he got to find a wild vine and went picking wild gourds from it, his garment full, and then came and sliced them into the stewpot, for they were not acquainted with them. (2 Kings 4:39)
- Later they poured it out for the men to eat. And it came about that, as soon as they ate from the stew, they themselves cried out and began saying; There is death in the pot, O man of the true God. And they were not able to eat. (2 Kings 4:40)
- So he said; Fetch, then, flour. After he threw it into the pot, he went on to say; Pour out for the people that they may eat. And nothing injurious proved to be in the pot. (2 Kings 4:41)
- During the critical times of the famine, a faithful remnant of Israelite worshipers who have not bent down to Baal appreciate the efforts of Yehowah's prophets and supply material food to them.
- When a man brings 20 barley loaves and some grain, **Elisha** gives orders that this small supply be fed to all. But there are 100 men of the sons of the prophets to be fed. Despite the doubts of the one doing the serving, all eat to satisfaction, after which there are leftovers.
- And there was a man that came from Baal-shalishah, and he came bringing to the man of the true God bread of the first ripe fruits, twenty barley loaves, and new grain in his bread bag. Then he said; Give it to the people that they may eat. (2 Kings

4:42)

- **However, his waiter said; How shall I put this before a hundred men? To this he said; Give it to the people that they may eat, for this is what Yehowah has said; There will be an eating and a having of leftovers. (2 Kings 4:43)**
- **At that he put it before them, and they began to eat, and they had leftovers according to the word of Yehowah. (2 Kings 4:44)**
- **By now the hour had grown late, and his disciples came up to him and began to say; The place is isolated, and the hour is already late. (Mark 6:35)**
- **Send them away, that they may go off into the countryside and villages round about and buy themselves something to eat. (Mark 6:36)**
- **In reply he said to them; You give them something to eat. At this they said to him; Shall we go off and buy two hundred denarii worth of loaves and give them to the people to eat? (Mark 6:37)**
- **He said to them; How many loaves have you? Go see! After ascertaining it, they said; Five, besides two fishes. (Mark 6:38)**
- **And he instructed all the people to recline by companies on the green grass. (Mark 6:39)**
- **And they laid themselves down in groups of a hundred and of fifty. (Mark 6:40)**
- **Taking now the five loaves and the two fishes he looked up to heaven and said a blessing, and broke the loaves up and began giving them to the disciples, that these might place them before the people, and he divided up the two fishes for all. (Mark 6:41)**
- **So they all ate and were satisfied. (Mark 6:42)**
- **And they took up fragments, twelve baskets full, aside from the fishes. (Mark 6:43)**
- **Furthermore, those who ate of the loaves were five thousand men. (Mark 6:44)**

•• Heals Naaman

- **During his reign, King Ben-hadad II of Syria sends his highly respected army chief Naaman, a leper, to the king of Israel to be healed of his leprosy.**
- **This valiant man had, although leprous, saved Syria. Evidently the leprous condition of Naaman does not bar him from holding such a high office in Syria, whereas it would have removed him from holding such office in Israel.**
- **All the days that the plague is in him he will be unclean. He is unclean. He should dwell isolated. Outside the camp is his dwelling place. ([Leviticus 13:46](#))**
- **King Ben-hadad's action in sending Naaman comes about because of the testimony of a young Israelite girl who is a captive and who is serving in the house of Naaman.**
- **This young girl trusts in Yehowah and tells her mistress of Yehowah's prophet **Elisha** of Israel. The king of Israel feels sure that Ben-hadad is picking a fight with him, for, as he says; Am I God, to put to death and to preserve alive? Elisha, hearing of the king's distress, tells the king; Let him come, please, to me that he may know that there exists a prophet in Israel.**
- **Now a certain Naaman, the chief of the army of the king of Syria, had become a great man before his lord and held in esteem, because it was by him that Yehowah had given salvation to Syria, and the man himself had proved to be a valiant, mighty man, though a leper. ([2 Kings 5:1](#))**
- **And the Syrians, for their part, had gone out as marauder bands, and they got to take captive from the land of Israel a little girl, and she came to be before Naaman's wife. ([2 Kings 5:2](#))**
- **In time she said to her mistress; If only my lord were before the prophet that is in Samaria! In that case he would recover him from his leprosy. ([2 Kings 5:3](#))**
- **Subsequently someone came and reported to his lord, saying; It was like this and that that the girl spoke who is from the land of Israel. ([2 Kings 5:4](#))**

- **Then the king of Syria said; Get going! Come, and let me send a letter to the king of Israel. So he proceeded to go and take in his hand ten talents of silver and six thousand pieces of gold and ten changes of garments. (2 Kings 5:5)**
- **And he came bringing the letter to the king of Israel, saying; And now at the same time that this letter comes to you, here I do send to you Naaman my servant, that you may recover him from his leprosy. (2 Kings 5:6)**
- **And it came about that as soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he immediately ripped his garments apart and said, Am I God, to put to death and to preserve alive? For this person is sending to me to recover a man from his leprosy, for just take note, please, you men, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me. (2 Kings 5:7)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as Elisha the man of the true God heard that the king of Israel had ripped his garments apart, he at once sent to the king, saying; Why did you rip your garments apart? Let him come, please, to me that he may know that there exists a prophet in Israel. (2 Kings 5:8)**
- **Elisha does not come out to see Naaman, but he sends instructions through his attendant for Naaman to bathe seven times in the Jordan River. At first this enrages Naaman, but finally he humbles himself to perform the simple procedure and becomes clean.**
- **Naaman returns to Elisha and vows that from now on he will serve Yehowah the God of Israel faithfully. He takes back with him some Israelite soil, the load of a pair of mules, upon which he will sacrifice to Yehowah, without doubt looking toward the temple of Jerusalem.**
- **As an officer of the king of Syria he will carry on his work, which includes going with the king into the house of the false god Rimmon. As the king is supported by him he will have to bow with the king, but he says he will no longer worship Rimmon.**
- **He will be performing, not a religious duty, but only his duty in service of the king. He offers Elisha a gift, which is refused. This harmonizes with the principle that the miracle is by Yehowah's power, not his, and he will not profit from the office Yehowah has given him.**

- **So Naaman came with his horses and his war chariots and stood at the entrance of the house of Elisha. (2 Kings 5:9)**
- **However, Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying; Going there, you must bathe seven times in the Jordan that your flesh may come back to you, and be clean. (2 Kings 5:10)**
- **At this Naaman grew indignant and began to go away and say; Here I had said to myself; To me he will come out all the way and will certainly stand and call upon the name of Yehowah his God and move his hand to and fro over the place and actually give the leper recovery. (2 Kings 5:11)**
- **Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Can I not bathe in them and certainly be clean? With that he turned and went away in a rage. (2 Kings 5:12)**
- **His servants now approached and spoke to him and said; My father, had it been a great thing that the prophet himself had spoken to you, would you not do it? How much more, then, since he said to you; Bathe and be clean? (2 Kings 5:13)**
- **At that he went down and began to plunge into the Jordan seven times according to the word of the man of the true God, after which his flesh came back like the flesh of a little boy and he became clean. (2 Kings 5:14)**
- **Then he went back to the man of the true God, he with all his camp, and came and stood before him and said; Here, now, I certainly know that there is no God anywhere in the earth but in Israel. And now accept, please, a blessing gift from your servant. (2 Kings 5:15)**
- **However, he said; As Yehowah before whom I do stand is living, I will not accept it. And he began to urge him to accept it, but he kept refusing. (2 Kings 5:16)**
- **Finally Naaman said; If not, please, let there be given to your servant some ground, the load of a pair of mules, because your servant will no more render up a burnt offering or a sacrifice to any other gods but to Yehowah. (2 Kings 5:17)**

- **In this thing may Yehowah forgive your servant; When my lord comes into the house of Rimmon to bow down there, and he is supporting himself upon my hand, and I have to bow down at the house of Rimmon, when I bow down at the house of Rimmon may Yehowah, please, forgive your servant in this respect. (2 Kings 5:18)**
- **At this he said to him; Go in peace. Accordingly he went away from him for a good stretch of the land. (2 Kings 5:19)**
- **Cure sick people, raise up dead persons, make lepers clean, expel demons. You received free, give free. (Matthew 10:8)**
- **Elisha's attendant Gehazi, greedy for selfish gain, overtakes Naaman and asks for some of the gifts that Elisha refused. Lyingly he tries to conceal the matter from Elisha. As a due punishment, Elisha tells him, the leprosy of Naaman will stick to you and your offspring to time indefinite.**
- **Then Gehazi the attendant of Elisha the man of the true God said; Here my master has spared Naaman this Syrian by not accepting from his hand what he brought. As Yehowah is living, I will run after him and take something from him. (2 Kings 5:20)**
- **And Gehazi went chasing after Naaman. When Naaman saw someone running after him, he at once got down from his chariot to meet him and then said; Is all well? (2 Kings 5:21)**
- **To this he said; All is well. My master himself has sent me, saying; Look! Just now there have come to me two young men from the mountainous region of Ephraim from the sons of the prophets. Do give them, please, a talent of silver and two changes of garments. (2 Kings 5:22)**
- **At that Naaman said; Go on, take two talents. And he kept urging him and finally bound up two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and gave them to two of his attendants, that they might carry them before him. (2 Kings 5:23)**
- **When he came to Ophel, he immediately took them from their hand and deposited them in the house and sent the men away. So off they went. (2 Kings 5:24)**

- And he himself came in and then stood by his master. **Elisha** now said to him; Where did you come from, Gehazi? But he said; Your servant did not go anywhere at all. (2 Kings 5:25)
- At that he said to him; Did not my heart itself go along just as the man turned to get down off his chariot to meet you? Is it a time to accept silver or to accept garments or olive groves or vineyards or sheep or cattle or menservants or maidservants? (2 Kings 5:26)
- So the leprosy of Naaman will stick to you and your offspring to time indefinite. Immediately he went out from before him, a leper white as snow. (2 Kings 5:27)
- It becomes necessary for the sons of the prophets with whom **Elisha** is associated to move to more spacious quarters. They are at the Jordan River cutting beams for their new housing.
- One of the prophets is using a borrowed ax, and the axhead comes off and falls into the water. **Elisha**, apparently concerned that no reproach come upon the prophets, throws a piece of wood into the water where the axhead had fallen, and the axhead floats to the top. Yehowah thereby proves that he is backing up his prophets.
- And the sons of the prophets began to say to **Elisha**; Look, now! The place where we are dwelling before you is too cramped for us. (2 Kings 6:1)
- Let us go, please, as far as the Jordan and take from there each one a beam and make for ourselves there a place in which to dwell. So he said; Go. (2 Kings 6:2)
- And a certain one went on to say; Come on, please, and go with your servants. At that he said; I myself shall go. (2 Kings 6:3)
- Accordingly he went with them, and they finally came to the Jordan and began to cut down the trees. (2 Kings 6:4)
- And it came about that a certain one was felling his beam, and the axhead itself fell into the water. And he began to cry out and say; Alas, my master, for it was borrowed! (2 Kings 6:5)
- Then the man of the true God said; Where did it fall? So he showed him the place. Immediately he cut off a piece of wood

and threw it there and made the axhead float. (2 Kings 6:6)

- He now said; Lift it up for yourself. At once he thrust his hand out and took it. (2 Kings 6:7)

• Israel Delivered From Syria

- During the reign of King Jehoram of Israel, Syria plans a surprise attack upon Israel. More than once maneuvers of Ben-hadad II are frustrated by **Elisha**, who reveals to King Jehoram every move of the Syrians. At first Ben-hadad thinks that there is a traitor in his own camp.

- But when he finds out the real source of his difficulty, he sends a military force to Dothan, surrounding it with horses and war chariots to get **Elisha**. **Elisha's** attendant is struck with fear, but **Elisha** prays to God to open the attendants eyes, and, look! The mountainous region is full of horses and war chariots of fire all around **Elisha**.

- Now, as the Syrian hosts close in, **Elisha** prays for the opposite kind of miracle; Please, strike this nation with blindness. **Elisha** says to the Syrians; Follow me; But he does not have to lead them by the hand, indicating that it is mental rather than physical blindness. They do not recognize **Elisha**, whom they came to take, nor do they know where he is taking them.

- And the king of Syria, for his part, became involved in war against Israel. Accordingly he took counsel with his servants, saying; At such and such a place you will encamp with me. (2 Kings 6:8)

- Then the man of the true God sent to the king of Israel, saying; Guard yourself against passing by this place, because there is where the Syrians are coming down. (2 Kings 6:9)

- So the king of Israel sent to the place that the man of the true God had said to him. And he warned him, and he kept away from there, not once or twice. (2 Kings 6:10)

- Consequently the heart of the king of Syria became enraged over this matter, so that he called his servants and said to them; Will you not tell me who from those who belong to us is for the king of Israel? (2 Kings 6:11)

- Then one of his servants said; None, my lord the king, but it is **Elisha** the prophet who is in Israel that tells the king of Israel the things that you speak in your inner bedroom. (**2 Kings 6:12**)
- So he said; You men go and see where he is, that I may send and take him. Later the report was made to him, saying; There he is in Dothan. (**2 Kings 6:13**)
- Immediately he sent horses and war chariots and a heavy military force there, and they proceeded to come by night and close in upon the city. (**2 Kings 6:14**)
- When the minister of the man of the true God rose early to get up, and went out, why, there a military force was surrounding the city with horses and war chariots. At once his attendant said to him; Alas, my master! What shall we do? (**2 Kings 6:15**)
- But he said; Do not be afraid, for there are more who are with us than those who are with them. (**2 Kings 6:16**)
- And **Elisha** began to pray and say; O Yehowah, open his eyes, please, that he may see. Immediately Yehowah opened the attendants eyes, so that he saw, and, look! The mountainous region was full of horses and war chariots of fire all around **Elisha**. (**2 Kings 6:17**)
- When they began to come down to him, **Elisha** went on to pray to Yehowah and say; Please, strike this nation with blindness. So he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. (**2 Kings 6:18**)
- **Elisha** now said to them; This is not the way, and this is not the city. Follow me, and let me conduct you to the man you look for. However, he conducted them to Samaria. (**2 Kings 6:19**)

· · What Sort Of Blindness Did Yehowah Strike The Syrians With

- As to this form of blindness, **William James, in his Principles of Psychology [1981, Vol. 1, p. 59], states; A most interesting effect of cortical disorder is mental blindness. This consists not so much in insensibility to optical impressions, as in inability to understand them.**
- Psychologically it is interpretable as **loss of associations** between optical sensations and what they signify, and any interruption of the

paths between the optic centres and the centres for other ideas ought to bring it about.

- **Bringing the Syrians to Samaria, Elisha prays that Yehowah open their eyes, and the Syrians find themselves right in the middle of Samaria before King Jehoram himself.**
- **Elisha manifests faith in Yehowah's power and shows complete lack of vindictiveness when he prevents the king of Israel from killing the Syrians, for, says he, they are like captives of war.**
- **He instructs the king to feed them, and they are feasted and sent home. The result is. Not once did the marauding bands of the Syrians come again into the land of Israel.**
- **And it came about that as soon as they arrived at Samaria, Elisha then said; O Yehowah, open the eyes of these that they may see. Immediately Yehowah opened their eyes, and they got to see, and here they were in the middle of Samaria. (2 Kings 6:20)**
- **The king of Israel now said to Elisha as soon as he saw them; Shall I strike them down, shall I strike them down, my father? (2 Kings 6:21)**
- **But he said; You must not strike them down. Are those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow the ones that you are striking down? Set bread and water before them that they may eat and drink and go to their lord. (2 Kings 6:22)**
- **Accordingly he spread a great feast for them, and they began to eat and drink, after which he sent them away and they went to their lord. And not once did the marauding bands of the Syrians come again into the land of Israel. (2 Kings 6:23)**
- **However, later on, Ben-hadad II invades, not with sporadic marauding forays, but in force and lays siege to Samaria. The siege is so severe that at least one case is reported to the king in which a woman eats her own son.**
- **As the offspring of Ahab, the son of a murderer; King Jehoram swears to kill Elisha. But the rash oath is not carried out. Arriving at the prophets house with his adjutant, Jehoram states that he has lost**

all hope of aid from Yehowah. **Elisha** assures the king that food supplies will be abundant the next day.

- The king's adjutant scoffs at this prediction, causing Elisha to tell him; Here you are seeing it with your own eyes, but from it you will not eat. By a noise that Yehowah causes to be heard in the camp of the Syrians, they are led to believe that a great army of combined nations is advancing against them, and they flee, leaving the camp intact with all its food supplies.

- When the king finds out about the desertion of the Syrians, he puts the adjutant in charge of guarding the gate of Samaria, and there he is trampled to death when the starving crowd of Israelites rush out to plunder the camp. He sees the food but does not eat from it.

- And it came about afterward that Ben-hadad the king of Syria proceeded to collect all his camp together and to go up and besiege Samaria. (2 Kings 6:24)

- Thus it happened to him like that, when the people kept trampling him in the gateway, so that he died. (2 Kings 7:20)

•• Hazael, Jehu, Named As Kings

- Our attention now swings to Damascus in Syria, where King Ben-hadad II lies near death. The king's envoy Hazael meets **Elisha** and inquires if his master will revive. Yehowah's spirit becomes operative and enables **Elisha** to see a bitter picture, saddening to **Elisha**. Hazael as supplanter of Ben-hadad will in time mete out unspeakable injury to Israel, although it is a just punishment from Yehowah for their sins.

- He tells Hazael to say to Ben-hadad; You will positively revive, and Yehowah has shown me that he will positively die. Hazael reports the first part in words but the second part by actions, suffocating the king under a wet coverlet and taking the throne of Syria.

- And **Elisha** proceeded to come to Damascus, and Ben-hadad the king of Syria was sick. Accordingly the report was made to him, saying; The man of the true God has come as far as here. (2 Kings 8:7)

- At that the king said to Hazael; Take a gift in your hand and go and meet the man of the true God, and you must inquire of Yehowah through him, saying; Shall I revive from this sickness?

(2 Kings 8:8)

- So Hazael went to meet him and took a gift in his hand, even every sort of good thing of Damascus, the load of forty camels, and came and stood before him and said; Your son, Ben-hadad, the king of Syria, has sent me to you, saying; Shall I revive from this sickness? (2 Kings 8:9)
- Then **Elisha** said to him; Go, say to him; You will positively revive, and Yehowah has shown me that he will positively die. (2 Kings 8:10)
- And he kept a fixed look and kept it set to the point of embarrassment. Then the man of the true God gave way to weeping. (2 Kings 8:11)
- At this Hazael said; Why is my lord weeping? To this he said; Because I well know what injury you will do to the sons of Israel. Their fortified places you will consign to the fire, and their choice men you will kill with the sword, and their children you will dash to pieces, and their pregnant women you will rip up. (2 Kings 8:12)
- Upon that Hazael said; What is your servant, who is a mere dog, that he could do this great thing? But **Elisha** said; Yehowah has shown me you as king over Syria. (2 Kings 8:13)
- After that he went from **Elisha** and came to his own lord, who then said to him; What did Elisha say to you? To this he said; He said to me; You will positively revive. (2 Kings 8:14)
- And it came about on the next day that he proceeded to take a coverlet and dip it in water and spread it out over his face, so that he died. And Hazael began to reign in place of him. (2 Kings 8:15)
- There is yet an unfinished work of Elijah for **Elisha** to carry out, namely, the anointing of Jehu as God's executioner against the wicked house of Ahab.
- And **Elisha** the prophet, for his part, called one of the sons of the prophets and then said to him; Gird up your loins and take this flask of oil in your hand and go to Ramoth-gilead. (2 Kings 9:1)

- **When you have come in there, see Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi there, and you must come in and make him get up from the midst of his brothers and bring him into the innermost chamber. (2 Kings 9:2)**
- **And you must take the flask of oil and pour it out upon his head and say; This is what Yehowah has said; I do anoint you as king over Israel. And you must open the door and flee and not wait. (2 Kings 9:3)**
- **And the attendant, the prophets attendant, got on his way to Ramoth-gilead. (2 Kings 9:4)**
- **When he came in, why, there the chiefs of the military force were seated. He now said; There is a word I have for you, O chief. At this Jehu said; For which one of all of us? Then he said; For you, O chief. (2 Kings 9:5)**
- **So he got up and came into the house, and he proceeded to pour the oil out upon his head and say to him; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; I do anoint you as king over Yehowah's people, that is, over Israel. (2 Kings 9:6)**
- **And you must strike down the house of Ahab your lord, and I must avenge the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of all the servants of Yehowah at the hand of Jezebel. (2 Kings 9:7)**
- **And the whole house of Ahab must perish, and I must cut off from Ahab anyone urinating against a wall and any helpless and worthless one in Israel. (2 Kings 9:8)**
- **And I must constitute the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. (2 Kings 9:9)**
- **And Jezebel the dogs will eat up in the tract of land at Jezreel, and there will be no one burying her. With that he opened the door and went fleeing. (2 Kings 9:10)**
- **He carries it out over 18 years after Yehowah gave the command to Elijah. Elisha gets to see the fulfillment of the prophecies at;**
- **Yehowah now said to him; Go, return on your way to the**

- wilderness of Damascus, and you must come in and anoint Hazael as king over Syria. (**1 Kings 19:15**)
- And Jehu the grandson of Nimshi you should anoint as king over Israel, and **Elisha** the son of Shaphat from Abel-meholah you should anoint as prophet in place of you. (**1 Kings 19:16**)
 - And it must occur that the one escaping from Hazael's sword, Jehu will put to death, and the one escaping from Jehu's sword, **Elisha** will put to death. (**1 Kings 19:17**)
 - Here I am bringing calamity upon you, and I shall certainly make a clean sweep after you and cut off from Ahab anyone urinating against a wall and the helpless and worthless one in Israel. (**1 Kings 21:21**)
 - And I shall certainly constitute your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the offense with which you have offended and then caused Israel to sin. (**1 Kings 21:22**)
 - And also as regards Jezebel Yehowah has spoken, saying; The very dogs will eat up Jezebel in the plot of land of Jezreel. (**1 Kings 21:23**)
 - Anyone of Ahab's that is dying in the city the dogs will eat up, and anyone dying in the field the fowls of the heavens will eat up. (**1 Kings 21:24**)
 - At the time of Jehu's anointing, Jehoram rules in Israel and Ahaziah his nephew rules in Judah. The Syrian Hazael afflicts Israel greatly during his rule, wounding Jehoram in battle at Ramoth-gilead.
 - Later Jehoram the king returned to get healed at Jezreel from the wounds that the Syrians got to inflict upon him when he fought Hazael the king of Syria. Jehu now said; If your soul agrees, do not let anyone go out in escape from the city to go and make report in Jezreel. (**2 Kings 9:15**)
 - Jehu wastes no time in carrying out his commission to wipe out the evil house of Ahab, letting no survivor remain.
 - Moreover, Jehu went on to strike down all who were left over of the house of Ahab in Jezreel and all his distinguished men and

his acquaintances and his priests, until he had let no survivor of his remain. (2 Kings 10:11)

- He goes first after King Jehoram of Israel, who is recuperating in Jezreel. In fulfillment of Elijah's prophecy, Jehoram is met outside the city and put to death and thrown into the tract of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite.
- And Jehu began to ride and go to Jezreel, for Jehoram was lying there, and Ahaziah the king of Judah himself had gone down to see Jehoram. (2 Kings 9:16)
- At that Jehoram said; Hitch up! So his war chariot was hitched up and Jehoram the king of Israel and Ahaziah the king of Judah went out, each in his own war chariot. As they continued on out to meet Jehu, they got to find him in the tract of land of Naboth the Jezreelite. (2 Kings 9:21)
- And it came about that as soon as Jehoram saw Jehu, he immediately said; Is there peace, Jehu? But he said; What peace could there be as long as there are the fornications of Jezebel your mother and her many sorceries? (2 Kings 9:22)
- At once Jehoram made a turn with his hands, that he might flee, and said to Ahaziah; There is trickery, Ahaziah! (2 Kings 9:23)
- And Jehu himself filled his hand with a bow and proceeded to shoot Jehoram between the arms, so that the arrow came out at his heart, and he collapsed in his war chariot. (2 Kings 9:24)
- He now said to Bidkar his adjutant; Lift him up, throw him into the tract of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite, for remember: I and you were riding teams behind Ahab his father, and Yehowah himself lifted up this pronouncement against him. (2 Kings 9:25)
- Certainly the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons I saw yesterday, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I shall certainly repay you in this tract of land, is the utterance of Yehowah. So now, lift him up, throw him into the tract of land according to the word of Yehowah. (2 Kings 9:26)
- Entering Jezreel, Jehu kills wicked Jezebel, mother of Jehoram of Israel and grandmother of Ahaziah of Judah. Jehu would have her buried, but Yehowah sees to it that the dogs eat up her fleshy parts

just as his prophet Elijah had foretold, so that she can have no tomb to memorialize her.

- **At length Jehu came to Jezreel, and Jezebel herself heard of it. And she proceeded to paint her eyes with black paint and do her head up beautifully and to look down through the window. (2 Kings 9:30)**
- **And Jehu himself came in by the gate. She now said; Did it go all right with Zimri the killer of his lord? (2 Kings 9:31)**
- **At that he raised his face toward the window and said; Who is with me? Who? Immediately two or three court officials looked down at him. (2 Kings 9:32)**
- **So he said; Let her drop! Then they let her drop, and some of her blood went spattering upon the wall and upon the horses, and he now trampled upon her. (2 Kings 9:33)**
- **After that he came on in and ate and drank and then said; You men, please, take care of this accursed one and bury her, for she is the daughter of a king. (2 Kings 9:34)**
- **When they went to bury her, they did not find anything of her but the skull and the feet and the palms of the hands. (2 Kings 9:35)**
- **When they returned and told him, he went on to say; It is the word of Yehowah that he spoke by means of his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying; In the tract of land of Jezreel the dogs will eat the flesh of Jezebel. (2 Kings 9:36)**
- **And the dead body of Jezebel will certainly become as manure upon the face of the field in the tract of land of Jezreel, that they may not say; This is Jezebel. (2 Kings 9:37)**
- **Ahab's 70 sons are beheaded. Ahaziah, Ahab's grandson, is killed.**
- **Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. Therefore Jehu wrote letters and sent them to Samaria to the princes of Jezreel, the older men and the caretakers of Ahab, saying; (2 Kings 10:1)**
- **Now, then, at the very time that this letter comes to you there are with you the sons of your lord, and there are with you the**

war chariots and the horses and a fortified city and the armor. (2 Kings 10:2)

- And you must see which is the best and most upright of the sons of your lord and put him upon the throne of his father. Then fight for the house of your lord. (2 Kings 10:3)
- And they became very greatly afraid and began to say; Look! Two kings themselves did not stand before him, and how shall we ourselves stand? (2 Kings 10:4)
- Consequently the one who was over the house and the one who was over the city and the older men and the caretakers sent to Jehu, saying; We are your servants, and everything that you say to us we shall do. We shall not make anyone king. What is good in your own eyes do. (2 Kings 10:5)
- At that he wrote them a second letter, saying; If you belong to me, and it is my voice that you are obeying, take the heads of the men that are sons of your lord and come to me tomorrow at this time at Jezreel. Now the sons of the king, seventy men, were with the distinguished men of the city that were bringing them up. (2 Kings 10:6)
- And it came about that as soon as the letter came to them, they went taking the sons of the king and slaughtering them, seventy men, after which they put their heads in baskets and sent them to him at Jezreel. (2 Kings 10:7)
- Then the messenger came in and told him, saying; They have brought the heads of the sons of the king. So he said; Put them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until morning. (2 Kings 10:8)
- And it came about in the morning that he proceeded to go out. Then he stood still and said to all the people; You are righteous. Here I myself conspired against my lord, and I got to kill him, but who struck down all these? (2 Kings 10:9)
- And Ahaziah the king of Judah himself saw it and took to flight by the way of the garden house. Later Jehu went in pursuit of him and said; Him also! Strike him down! So they struck him down while in the chariot on the way up to Gur, which is by Ibleam. And he continued his flight to Megiddo and got to die

- there. (2 Kings 9:27)
- Then his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and so they buried him in his grave with his forefathers in the City of David. (2 Kings 9:28)
 - And 42 brothers of Ahaziah are slaughtered by Jehu's executional sword.
 - And he proceeded to rise and come in, then get on his way to Samaria. The binding house of the shepherds was on the way. (2 Kings 10:12)
 - And Jehu himself encountered the brothers of Ahaziah the king of Judah. When he said to them, Who are you? Then they said, We are the brothers of Ahaziah, and we are on our way down to ask if all is well with the sons of the king and the sons of the lady. (2 Kings 10:13)
 - Immediately he said; Seize them alive, you men! So they seized them alive and slaughtered them at the cistern of the binding house, forty-two men, and he did not let a single one of them remain. (2 Kings 10:14)
 - And Yehowah's word came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying; (1 Kings 21:17)
 - Rise up, go down to meet Ahab the king of Israel, who is in Samaria. There he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to take possession of it. (1 Kings 21:18)
 - And you must speak to him, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; Have you murdered and also taken possession? And you must speak to him, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; In the place where the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, the dogs will lick up your blood, even yours. (1 Kings 21:19)
 - And Ahab proceeded to say to Elijah; Have you found me, O enemy of mine? To which he said; I have found you. For the reason that you have sold yourself to do what is bad in the eyes of Yehowah. (1 Kings 21:20)
 - Here I am bringing calamity upon you, and I shall certainly make a clean sweep after you and cut off from Ahab anyone urinating

against a wall and the helpless and worthless one in Israel. (**1 Kings 21:21**)

- **And I shall certainly constitute your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the offense with which you have offended and then caused Israel to sin. (1 Kings 21:22)**
- **And also as regards Jezebel Yehowah has spoken, saying; The very dogs will eat up Jezebel in the plot of land of Jezreel. (1 Kings 21:23)**
- **Anyone of Ahab's that is dying in the city the dogs will eat up, and anyone dying in the field the fowls of the heavens will eat up. (1 Kings 21:24)**

•• Baal Worship Destroyed

- **Continuing his ride up to Samaria the capital city, Jehu meets Jehonadab, who fully supports his execution of Baal worship, and the two ride on to Samaria to see the final stroke that will wipe Baalism entirely from Israel.**
- **Through strategy Jehu has all the Baal worshipers gather to the house of Baal and put on their garments of identification. The house is filled from end to end, and no worshipers of Yehowah are among them. Jehu gives the command, and his men slaughter every Baal worshiper, tearing down their sacred pillars and pulling down Baals house, setting the area aside for privies.**
- **As he was going along from there he got to encounter Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him. When he blessed him, he accordingly said to him; Is your heart upright with me, just as my own heart is with your heart? To this Jehonadab said; It is. If it is, do give me your hand. So he gave him his hand. At that he made him get up into the chariot with him. (2 Kings 10:15)**
- **Then he said; Do go along with me and look upon my toleration of no rivalry toward Yehowah. And they kept him riding with him in his war chariot. (2 Kings 10:16)**
- **Finally he came to Samaria. Now he went striking down all who were left over of Ahab's in Samaria, until he had annihilated them, according to Yehowah's word that he had spoken to Elijah.**

(2 Kings 10:17)

- **Further, Jehu collected all the people together and said to them; Ahab, on the one hand, worshiped Baal a little. Jehu, on the other hand, will worship him a great deal. (2 Kings 10:18)**
- **So now call all the prophets of Baal, all his worshipers and all his priests to me. Do not let a single one be missing, because I have a great sacrifice for Baal. Anyone that is missing will not keep living. As for Jehu, he acted slyly, for the purpose of destroying the worshipers of Baal. (2 Kings 10:19)**
- **And Jehu went on to say; Sanctify a solemn assembly for Baal. Accordingly they proclaimed it. (2 Kings 10:20)**
- **After that Jehu sent through all Israel, so that all the worshipers of Baal came in. And not a single one was left over that did not come in. And they kept coming into the house of Baal, and the house of Baal came to be full from end to end. (2 Kings 10:21)**
- **He now said to the one who was over the wardrobe; Bring out garments for all the worshipers of Baal. So he brought the attire out for them. (2 Kings 10:22)**
- **Then Jehu entered with Jehonadab the son of Rechab into the house of Baal. He now said to the worshipers of Baal; Search carefully and see that there may be here with you none of the worshipers of Yehowah, but only the worshipers of Baal. (2 Kings 10:23)**
- **Finally they came in to render up sacrifices and burnt offerings, and Jehu himself stationed eighty men outside at his disposal and went on to say; As for the man that escapes from the men whom I am bringing into your hands, the ones soul will go for the others soul. (2 Kings 10:24)**
- **And it came about that as soon as he finished rendering up the burnt offering, Jehu immediately said to the runners and the adjutants; Come in, strike them down! Do not let a single one go out. And the runners and the adjutants began to strike them down with the edge of the sword and to throw them out, and they kept going as far as the city of the house of Baal. (2 Kings 10:25)**

- Then they brought out the sacred pillars of the house of Baal and burned each one. (2 Kings 10:26)
- Further, they pulled down the sacred pillar of Baal and pulled down the house of Baal, and they kept it set aside for privies down to this day. (2 Kings 10:27)
- **Elisha**, therefore, completes the work started by Elijah. Baal worship is annihilated out of Israel. **Elisha** does not experience being carried in a windstorm to the heavens to be taken to another location before his death, as was Elijah.
- During the reign of King Jehoash of Israel, **Elisha** dies a natural death. While he is on his deathbed, trouble appears for Israel again from Syria. King Jehoash approaches **Elisha** and makes an apparent appeal for military help against the Syrians when he addresses Elisha with the words;
 - My father, my father, the war chariot of Israel and his horsemen! Upon **Elisha's** request, Jehoash strikes the earth with his arrows. But as he does this with lack of real zeal, only three times, **Elisha** tells him that as a consequence he will be granted only three victories over Syria. This is fulfilled.
- As regards **Elisha**, he had taken sick with the sickness with which he was to die. So Jehoash the king of Israel came down to him and began to weep over his face and say; My father, my father, the war chariot of Israel and his horsemen! (2 Kings 13:14)
- And **Elisha** proceeded to say to him; Take a bow and arrows. So he took to himself a bow and arrows. (2 Kings 13:15)
- And he went on to say to the king of Israel; Put your hand to the bow. Accordingly he put his hand to it, after which **Elisha** laid his hands upon the hands of the king. (2 Kings 13:16)
- Then he said; Open the window to the east. So he opened it. Finally **Elisha** said; Shoot! So he shot. He now said; Yehowah's arrow of salvation, even the arrow of salvation against Syria! And you will certainly strike down Syria at Aphek to the finishing point. (2 Kings 13:17)
- And he went on to say; Take the arrows. At that he took them. Then he said to the king of Israel; Strike on the earth. So he

struck three times and stopped. (2 Kings 13:18)

- And the man of the true God grew indignant at him, hence he said; It was meant to strike five or six times! In that case you would certainly be striking down Syria to the finishing point, but now it is three times that you will strike down Syria. (2 Kings 13:19)
- And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz proceeded to take back again from the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael the cities that he had taken from the hand of Jehoahaz his father in war. Three times Jehoash struck him down, and he got to recover the cities of Israel. (2 Kings 13:25)

•• Work Accomplished

- Through God's spirit upon **Elisha**, he had performed 15 miracles up to this point. But even after his death he is used by Yehowah for a 16th miracle. **Elisha** had been faithful till death, approved by God.
- The record relates that after **Elisha's** burial another man was being buried when a marauding band of Moabites caused the burial party to throw the man into **Elisha's** burial place and flee. Upon touching **Elisha's** bones, the dead man came to life and stood upon his feet.
- After that **Elisha** died and they buried him. And there were marauding bands of the Moabites that regularly came into the land at the coming in of the year. (2 Kings 13:20)
- And it came about that as they were burying a man, why, here they saw the marauding band. At once they threw the man into **Elisha's** burial place and went off. When the man touched the bones of **Elisha**, he immediately came to life and stood upon his feet. (2 Kings 13:21)
- Jesus calls **Elisha** a prophet at;
- Also, there were many lepers in Israel in the time of **Elisha** the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed, but Naaman the man of Syria. (Luke 4:27)
- And he is undoubtedly alluded to along with Elijah at;

- **Women received their dead by resurrection, but other men were tortured because they would not accept release by some ransom, in order, that they might attain a better resurrection. ([Hebrews 11:35](#))**
- **Both having performed resurrections. Elijah had come into his prophetic work at a time when Israel was steeped in Baal worship, and this required zeal for true worship. He accomplished a great work in turning the hearts of many back to Yehowah.**
- **Elisha** took up where Elijah left off, and while his ministry itself was more peaceable, he saw to it that the work started by Elijah was thoroughly carried out, and he lived to see it done. He is credited with 16 miracles as compared with Elijah's.
- **Like Elijah, he showed great zeal for Yehowah's name and true worship. He manifested patience, love, and kindness and yet was very firm when Yehowah's name was involved, he did not hesitate to express God's judgment against the wicked. He earned for himself a place among the so great a cloud of witnesses mentioned at**
- **So, then, because we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also put off every weight and the sin that easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. ([Hebrews 12:1](#))**
- **Since the work that Elijah did was prophetic of things to come in the time of Jesus earthly ministry, and also at a later time, it is reasonable to assume the same thing regarding Elisha's work, since he actually completed the work Elijah began, carrying out his unfinished commission.**