

THE END OF ELIJAH'S MINISTRY

1 Kings 19:15 – 21; 2 Kings 2:1 - 25

It was inevitable that Elijah, the great prophet of God, must sometime end his wonderful ministry on earth. Read the following to discover how this came about, and what unusual circumstances were connected with the close of his ministry:

A. Elijah's Successor Appointed: Read 1 Kings 19:15-21

1. While Elijah was at Mt. Horeb (or Sinai), where he had fled from wicked queen Jezebel, whom had God told him to anoint to be prophet in his place? 1 Kings 19:16b

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2. What was this man doing when Elijah found him? 1 Kings 19:19a

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3. What did Elijah do when he saw him? 1 Kings 19:19b

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4. What did Elisha ask to be allowed to do before he began following Elijah?
1 Kings 19:20, 21

B. The End of Elijah's Ministry: Read 2 Kings 2:1-12

1. What did the Lord plan to do to end Elijah's ministry? 2 Kings 2:1a

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2. From Gilgal, to what city did Elijah say the Lord had called him to go?
2 Kings 2:2a (Locate both on a map.)

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3. What did Elijah tell Elisha to do? 2 Kings 2:2a

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4. Did Elisha agree to this? 2 Kings 2:2b

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5. What did the sons of the prophets at Bethel tell Elisha? 2 Kings 2:3a

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6. Was this news to Elisha? 2 Kings 2:3b

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7. What did Elisha say when Elijah told him the Lord had sent him on to Jericho? 2 Kings 2:4

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8. What did the sons of the prophets there tell Elisha? 2 Kings 2:5

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9. What did Elisha say when Elijah told him the Lord had sent him on to the Jordan River? 2 Kings 2:6

10. What did Elijah do as they came to the Jordan River? 2 Kings 2:8a

11. What did this make it possible for the two of them to do? 2 Kings 2:8b

1. When Elijah asked what he should do for Elisha before he was taken from him, what did Elisha request? 2 Kings 2:9b

13. On what condition did Elijah say he would receive this? 2 Kings 2:10

14. As they talked together further, what happened to separate them?
2 Kings 2:11a

15. Then what happened to Elijah? 2 Kings 2:11b

16. Did Elisha see this? 2 Kings 2:12a

C. The Beginning of Elisha's Ministry: Read 2 Kings 2:13-15, 23-25

1. What fell from Elijah as he went up? 2 Kings 2:13a

2. What did Elisha do with this before crossing the Jordan River again?
2 Kings 2:14

3. What did the sons of the prophets who were watching know about him as a result? 2 Kings 2:15

4. What did he do that would prove to the men of Jericho that this was true?
1 Kings 2:19-22

5. Notice also how those at Bethel could be sure of this: 2 Kings 2:23, 24

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What was Elisha's main concern in life? (See 2 Kings 2:9b; Psalm 63:1, 2, 8)

2. Am I so eager for God's best for me that I give ease and personal comfort?

ELISHA AND JEHORAM, NINTH KING OF ISRAEL

2 Kings 3

Since Ahaziah, Ahab's son, had no son to reign in his stead, his brother Jehoram was chosen to lead Israel after Ahaziah's death (2 Kings 1:17). Study his reign below:

A. General Description of Jehoram's Reign: Read 2 Kings 3:1-3

1. How long did Jehoram reign? 2 Kings 3:1

2. How did his reign compare with that of his parents? 2 Kings 3:2a

3. What sin, which his parents had introduced into Israel, did he remove?
2 Kings 3:2b

4. Yet, what sin did he continue to commit? 2 Kings 3:3

B. Jehoram's Great Purpose: Read 2 Kings 3:4-9a

1. What had the king of Moab been giving to the King of Israel until Ahab's death? 2 Kings 3:4

2. What had he done after Ahab died? 2 Kings 3:5

3. Therefore, what did Jehoram decide to do? 2 Kings 3:7b

4. Whom did he ask to help him in this project? 2 Kings 3:7a

5. What other king also joined them? 2 Kings 3:9a

C. Jehoram's Great Problem: Read 2 Kings 3:9, 10

1. What great problem arose after these kings and their armies had been travelling seven days? 2 Kings 3:9

2. What did the king of Israel believe was going to happen to all of them as a result? 2 Kings 3:10

3. Who did he feel had brought this problem upon them? 2 Kings 3:10a

D. Jehoshaphat's Proposed Solution: Read 2 Kings 3:11-19

1. What did Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, suggest that they should do?
2 Kings 3:11a

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2. What prophet was there to help at this time? 2 Kings 3:11b

3. When they went to see him, for whose sake did Elisha say he would consider helping Jehoram, king of Israel? 2 Kings 3:14

4. After receiving God's message, what did Elisha tell the three kings to do?
2 Kings 3:16

5. What two things did he promise would happen? 2 Kings 3:17, 18

a. _____

b. _____

E. The Results of Following Jehoshaphat's Proposal: Read 2 Kings 3:20-27

1. What happened the next morning when they offered their sacrifice unto the Lord? 2 Kings 3:20

2. What did the Moabites see when they came out to fight later on?
2 Kings 3:22

3. What did they think it was, and what did they think had happened?
2 Kings 3:23a

4. What did they come to the camp of Israel expecting to do? 2 Kings 3:23b

5. But what did the Israelites do when their enemies came into their camp?
2 Kings 3:24

6. What did the king of Moab do when he saw that he could not win the battle? 2 Kings 3:27

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. For whose sake did God through Elisha help Jehoram in this way?
(See 2 Kings 3:14)

2. Am I so wicked that God would not consider helping me except for the Christians who seek Him in my behalf? If so, what should I do?
(See Isaiah 55:6, 7)

ELISHA'S MINISTRY TO THE SONS OF THE PROPHETS
2 Kings 4:1 - 7, 38 - 44; 6:1 - 7

In four different ways, Elisha performed a special ministry to meet a need of some of the sons (or pupils) of the prophets. Read about these ministries below:

A. The Ministry to the Family of a Son of the Prophets: Read 2Kings 4:1-7

1. What double problem faced the wife of one of the sons of the prophets?

a. 2 Kings 4:1a _____

b. 2 Kings 4:1b _____

2. To whom did the woman go in her distress? 2 Kings 4:1a

3. What did he discover was her only possession? 2 Kings 4:2

4. What did he tell her to do with this? 2 Kings 4:3, 4

5. After she done this, what did Elisha tell her to do with the oil? 2 Kings 4:7a

6. What two things was she then to do with the money? 2 Kings 4:7b

B. The Ministry to the Sons of the Prophets at Gilgal: Read 2 Kings 4:38-44

1. As Elisha was teaching the sons of the prophets at Gilgal, what did he ask his servant to do? 2 Kings 4:38

2. What did one of them put into the pot? 2 Kings 4:39

3. What did they realize when they began eating their meal? 2 Kings 4:40

4. Since there was dearth (scarcity or famine) in the land (2 Kings 4:38), could they afford to throw away this food? (*THINK!*)

5. Therefore, what did Elisha do to remedy the situation? 2 Kings 4:41a

6. What was the result after this? 2 Kings 4:41b

7. At another time, how much food did some one bring to their group?:
2 Kings 4:42a

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8. What did he tell his servant to do with this food? 2 Kings 4:42b

9. Why did the servant hesitate to do this? 2 Kings 4:43a

10. What prediction did Elisha make? 2 Kings 4:43b

11. Did this come to pass? 2 Kings 4:44

C. The Ministry to an Individual Son of the Prophets: Read 2 Kings 6:1-7

1. What did the sons of the prophets decide about the place where they were living with Elisha? 2 Kings 6:1

2. What did they decide to do about this situation? 2 Kings 6:2

3. What did one of them ask Elisha to do? 2 Kings 6:3

4. What happened as one of them was cutting down a tree? 2 Kings 6:5a

5. Why was he especially concerned about this? 2 Kings 6:5b

6. What did Elisha do, and what was the result? 2 Kings 6:6, 7

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What did each of those studied above do when a need arose?
(See Psalm 63:1, 2)

2. Do I seek the Lord concerning each need of mine? Am I careful to obey His instructions, even if it seem a miracle is needed to meet the need?
