

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

PERIOD SIX

TWO KINGDOMS - ELIJAH AND ELISHA

LESSON 28

In this lesson we want to learn about -

ELIJAH - as a GREAT PROPHET

- *how God cared for him*
- *how he showed the people the true God*
- *how God encouraged him*
- *how he found a helper*
- *how he left this world*

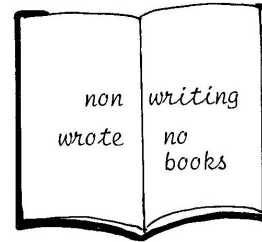
ELISHA

- *nine of his miracles,*
- *his meeting with King Joash of Israel.*

JUDAH				Ahaziah ↓					
King	Jehoshaphat	Jehoram		Athaliah	Joash				
Prophet		Obadiah							
Prophet					Joel				
Prophet									
BC	870	860	850	840	830	820	810	800 790	
Prophet									
Prophet		Elijah	Elisha						
King	Ahab	Joram	Jehu		Jehohaz		Jehoash		
		Ahaziah							
ISRAEL	Family of Ahab			Family of Jehu					

1. INTRODUCTION

Elijah and Elisha were great prophets. We can learn many things from them. Elijah and Elisha did not write any books of the Bible. This is why they are called "non-writing" prophets.



2. ELIJAH

A. Elijah, the great prophet.

Elijah was not afraid to speak against sin. He even warned King Ahab of his sin.

Elijah loved the Lord. He tried to stop the people from worshipping Baal.

The prophet Malachi said there would be another prophet like Elijah. This prophet was to come before the day of the Lord, Malachi 4:5,6. Jesus said that John the Baptist was this prophet (Matthew 11:10-14, 17:11-13).

Elijah lived when King Ahab and King Ahaziah lived.

B. Elijah and God's care, 1 Kings 17.

READ 1 KINGS 17.

This story shows how God takes care of his children.

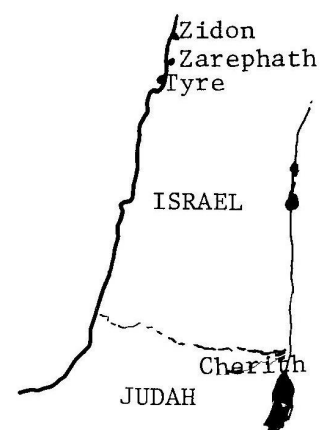
Elijah told Ahab something was going to happen. What was going to happen (1 Kings 17:1)?



The Lord knew this would make Ahab and Jezebel angry. Jezebel was the wife of Ahab. God told Elijah to hide from them. Where did the Lord tell Elijah to hide (1 Kings 17:3)?

Who brought food to Elijah (1 Kings 17:6)?

After awhile the brook (small river) dried up. Where was Elijah to go (1 Kings 17:9)?



Whom did he find there (1 Kings 17:10)?

Was she rich or poor (1 Kings 17:12)?

The widow showed kindness to Elijah. Because she showed kindness, she had enough food for her family and for Elijah.

This woman had a son. He died. Elijah raised this boy to life again (1 Kings 17:21-24).

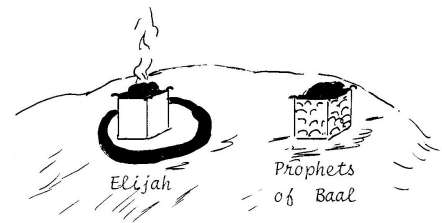
C. Elijah and the prophets of Baal, 1 Kings 18.

READ 1 KINGS 18.

God told Elijah, "Go see King Ahab again." Elijah met Obadiah on the road. Elijah told Obadiah to bring Ahab to him.

Ahab blamed Elijah for the dry weather. Who should Ahab really blame (1 Kings 18:18)?

Why?



What did Elijah tell Ahab to do (1 Kings 18:19)?

Ahab had the people come together on Mount Carmel.

Elijah told the people of Israel,

"How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him" 1 Kings 18:21 (New American Standard Bible).

Elijah told them he was going to show them who the real God was.

How many prophets of Baal were in the meeting (1 Kings 18:22)?

How many prophets of the Lord were in the meeting?

Elijah told the prophets of Baal to make an altar and put a sacrifice on it. He told them to ask Baal to set the sacrifice on fire. Was Baal able to set the sacrifice on fire (1 Kings 18:26)?

What did Elijah do to the prophets while they prayed (1 Kings 18:27)?

That evening Elijah made an altar. He put his sacrifice on it. Then he asked someone to pour lots of water on the sacrifice. When everything was ready, Elijah prayed. Did the Lord answer his prayer (1 Kings 18:38)?
How?

Did the people of Israel choose to follow the Lord (1 Kings 18:39)?

What did the people do to the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:40)?

Then Elijah told Ahab, "It's going to rain hard."

D. Elijah and the Lord, 1 Kings 19:1-18.

READ 1 KINGS 19:1-18.

What did Jezebel say when she heard the prophets of Baal were killed (1 Kings 19:2)?

Did this make Elijah afraid (1 Kings 19:3)?

We may ask, "Why was Elijah afraid?" God had done great things for Elijah. Now a woman made Elijah run for his life.

Those who work for the Lord sometimes get very tired. Fighting against Satan and sin is very hard. When the Lord's workers are tired, they get discouraged easily. They may feel like giving up. Things seem to look very bad. This happened to Elijah. He was very tired from the work on Mount Carmel. He was tired from his run down the mountain. Then someone wanted to kill him. Elijah was too tired to fight, so he ran.

Remember this when you get into the work of the Lord. You may have to get away from the work sometimes to get some rest. The Lord will give you new strength.

How did the Lord help Elijah (1 Kings 19:5,6)?

Notice, the Lord gave Elijah food and rest.

How did the Lord speak to Elijah when he was in a cave (1 Kings 19:12,13)?

When we want to hear what the Lord is saying, we must be quiet.

E. Elijah and Elisha, 1 Kings 19:19-21.

READ 1 KINGS 19:19-21

What was Elisha doing when Elijah came to him (1 Kings 19:19)?

Elijah threw his mantle (coat) on Elisha. This was a sign that Elijah gave Elisha his special work.

What did Elisha do before he followed Elijah (1 Kings 19:21)?

F. Elijah and King Ahaziah, 2 Kings 1:1-18.

READ 2 KINGS 1:1-18.

Ahaziah was the son of Ahab. He was a bad king like his father.

Ahaziah fell and hurt himself. He sent messengers to Baal-zebub to find out if he would die. Elijah met the messengers on the road. What did Elijah tell the messengers (2 Kings 1:3,4)?

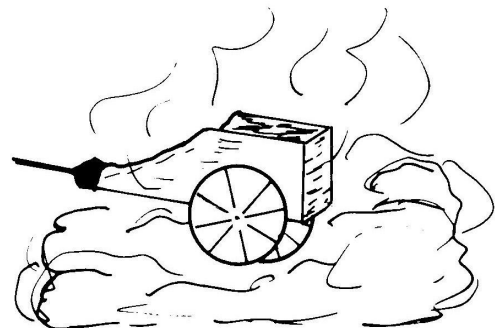
What Elijah said to the messengers made the king angry. The king wanted Elijah to come to him. He sent soldiers to call Elijah. What happened to the soldiers (2 Kings 1:10-12)?

One group of soldiers humbled themselves. The Lord told Elijah to go to Ahaziah. Elijah told Ahaziah again, "You will die."

G. Elijah goes to heaven, 2 Kings 2:1-13.

READ 2 KINGS 2:1-13.

Elisha was Elijah's helper. He went with Elijah everywhere. One day Elijah wanted to go to a city. He told Elisha to wait for him. But Elisha



would not leave Elijah. Why (2 Kings 2:3,4)?

What did Elisha want from Elijah (2 Kings 2:9)?

How did Elijah go to heaven (2 Kings 2:11)?

What did Elisha receive from Elijah (2 Kings 2:13)?

3. ELISHA

We remember Elisha because of the many miracles he did.

A. Elisha's first three miracles, 2 Kings 2:14-25.

- **Elisha and the Jordan River.**

READ 2 KINGS 2:14,15.

What happened when Elisha hit the river with Elijah's mantle?



When the other prophets saw this, they knew that Elisha was God's prophet.

- **Elisha and the spring of water.**

READ 2 KINGS 2:19-22.

What did Elisha do to the spring of water at Jericho?



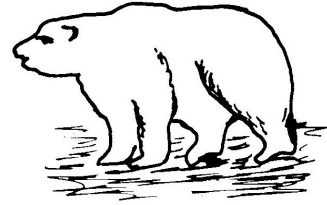
- **Elisha and the young boys.**

READ 2 KINGS 2:23,24.

One day Elisha was walking along the road. Some young boys came and made fun of

him. What happened to these young boys?

These young boys made fun of Elisha, the prophet of the Lord. Maybe they heard their parents make fun of Elisha. It is dangerous to make fun of God's workers. These were torn because they made fun of God's worker. Also read 2 Chronicles 36:15,16.



B. Elisha's next four miracles, 2 Kings 4.

READ 2 KINGS 4.

- **Elisha and the prophet's widow.**

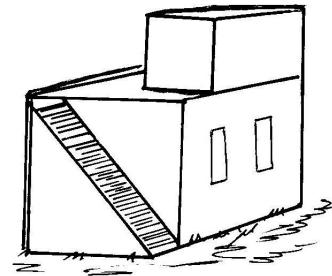
A widow of one of the prophets owed money. She could not pay what she owed. The man was going to take her sons for what she owed. What did Elisha do to help the widow?



- **Elisha and the great woman.**

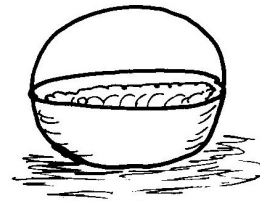
What did the woman do for Elisha (2 Kings 4:10)?

The Lord gave this woman a son because she was kind. Later the child became sick and died. The woman went to Elisha for help. What did Elisha do (2 Kings 4:32-35)?



- **Elisha and the poison stew.**

The prophets gathered plants to make stew. One of them found some gourds. He put them into the stew. These gourds were poison gourds. What did Elisha do to the stew (2 Kings 4:41)?



- **Elisha and the hundred men.**

Someone gave food to the men, but it was not enough to feed all the men.

What did Elisha do (2 Kings 4:43,44)?



C. Elisha and Naaman, 2 Kings 5.

READ 2 KINGS CHAPTER 5.

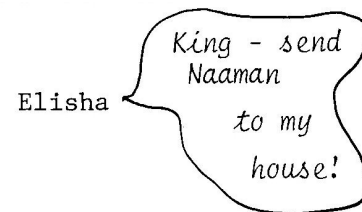
This is a great story of love, faith, and obedience.

Naaman and his wife were people of Syria. They were good people. Naaman had leprosy. A little girl from Israel was working for Naaman and his wife. Do you think this girl loved them (2 Kings 5:3)?

Why?

Naaman listened to the girl. He went and told the king of Syria. The king of Syria sent Naaman to the king of Israel. What did the king of Israel say when he heard that Naaman came to be healed of leprosy (2 Kings 5:7)?

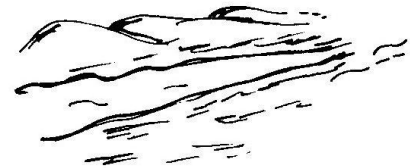
Elisha heard that Naaman had come to be healed of leprosy. He sent a message to the king, "Send Naaman to me." Naaman went to Elisha's house.



What did Elisha tell Naaman to do (2 Kings 5:10)?

Was Naaman happy when he heard this (2 Kings 5:11)?

Naaman's servants asked him to obey the words of the prophet. At last Naaman went and washed in the Jordan River. What happened to Naaman (2 Kings 5:14)?



Did Elisha take pay for healing Naaman (2 Kings 5:16)?



But Elisha's servant wanted the money. He followed

Naaman. He lied to Naaman. He said, "Elisha would like some things for other people." Naaman gave him money and clothes. When the servant came back, he hid the money and the clothes. Elisha asked him, "Where have you been?" Again the servant lied. Because the servant wanted to get these things for himself, he became a leper.

D. Elisha and the king of Syria, 2 Kings 6.

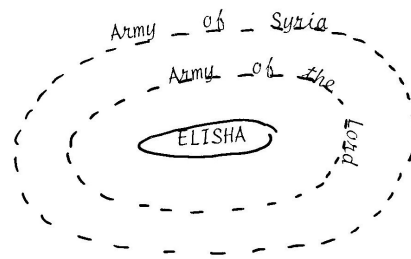
The Lord told Elisha the plans of the king of Syria. Elisha told these plans to the king of Israel. Because of this, the king of Syria could not take the army of Israel. This made the king of Syria angry. He found out that Elisha was telling his plans to the king of Israel. Then he sent his army to take Elisha. What did the Lord send to protect Elisha (2 Kings 6:17)?

Elisha
to
King of
Israel

King - the King of
Syria is coming - you will
find him in such and such a place.

The Lord sends his angels to protect the people who love Him (Psalm 34:7; 91:9-12).

What did Elisha do with the army of Syria (2 Kings 6:18-20)?



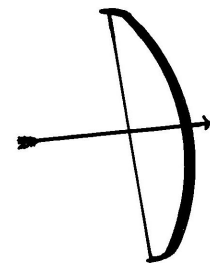
These men were like men taken in war. The king asked, "Shall I kill them?" Elisha said, "No." Elisha asked the king to feed the men and send them home. The army of Syria did not bother Elisha after this.

It pays to do good to our enemies.

E. Elisha and King Joash of Israel, 2 Kings 13:14-21.

READ 2 KINGS 13:14-21.

Elisha became sick. He was going to die. Joash came to him. Joash wanted to know if he could defeat the army of Syria. Elisha told him to shoot an arrow out the window. Elisha told Joash, "You will be able to defeat the army of Syria."



Next Elisha told Joash to hit the ground with his arrows. How many times did Joash hit the ground (2 Kings 13:18)?

Elisha was angry because he did not hit it more times. Elisha said, "The army of Israel will defeat the army of Syria only three times."

Elisha died soon after this. He was buried in a grave. Later the body of a man was thrown into Elisha's grave. What happened (2 Kings 13:21)?

WORDS TO LEARN

1. Baal-zebub - (god of the fly) this god was worshiped at Ekron by the Philistines.
2. gourd - fruit-like melon. The shell can be dried and used as a bottle.
3. mantle - coat.
4. messenger - one who carries a message, one who takes news to another person.
5. mock - to make fun of.
6. protect - to keep safe.
7. he humbled himself - to think the other person is greater than himself.
8. poison - something eaten or breathed which will make a person sick or kill him.

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