



This week we will study about the prophet Elijah and the new prophet that God had chosen to take his place.



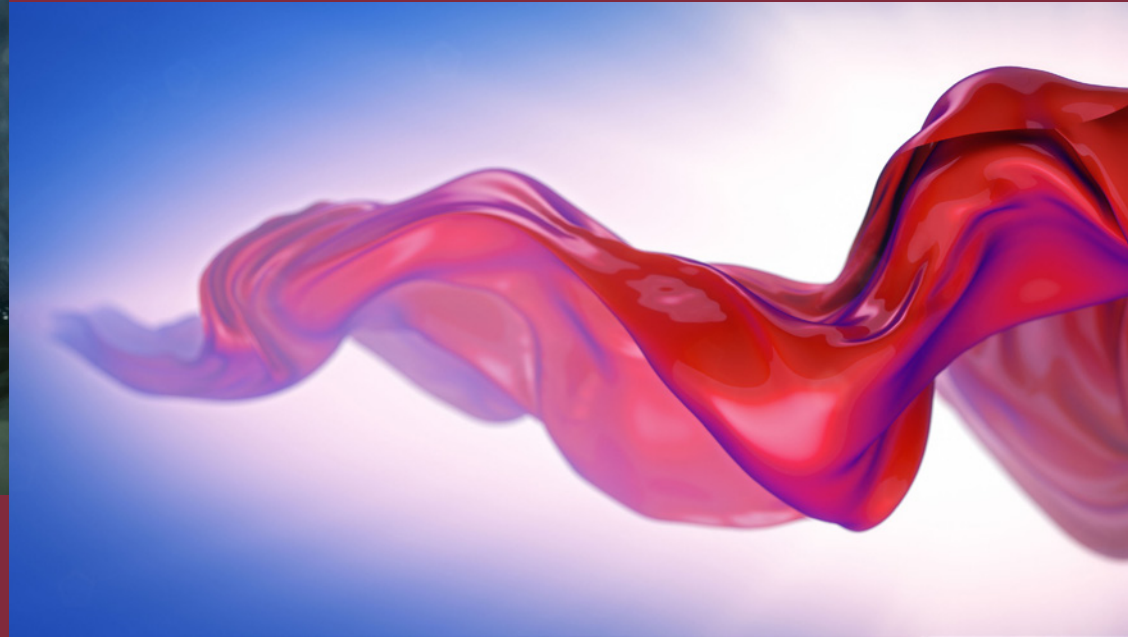
Torchlight

"Reverence, in which the youth who mocked Elisha were so lacking, is a grace that should be carefully cherished. Every child should be taught to show true reverence for God. Never should His name be spoken lightly or thoughtlessly. Angels, as they speak it, veil their faces. With what reverence should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon our lips!"

– Prophets & Kings p. 236



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ALL BIBLE TEXTS FROM THE REMNANT YOUNG SCHOLAR STUDY BIBLE (NKJV)
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The Chariot, the Mantle, and the Bears

Daily Devotional 48



SUNDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for my Bible and the stories that I can read, which help me to learn more about You. Please send me the Holy Spirit to help me to keep Your commandments and to be faithful and obedient. I love you Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

“...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's”.

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 22:51-53 &
2 Kings 1:1-8



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our reading today introduces us to the working life of Elisha. After God took Elijah to heaven in a fiery chariot, Elisha stayed at the school of the prophets near Jericho. Some men came out of the city to ask Elisha if he could help them with their bad water supply. This first miracle was to heal the water so it could be drinkable again. After this, he left this school to go the school at Bethel. On his way, some youth came out and mocked Elisha. These youths knew Elijah had gone to heaven but by mocking Elisha they were actually mocking God. God had raised up Elijah and Elisha for a very special purpose; they were God's messengers. Unfortunately, because of their irreverence, these forty-two young people lost their lives to two very angry bears.

Having reverence for God and his prophets was important as the prophets were sent by God as messengers to instruct and help His people. We are to do this as well, as it will help us in our Christian walk and strengthen our relationship with God. When our relationship with God is strong we can then help others to learn about God.



SABBATH QUIZ

1. What sort of accident did king Ahaziah have? _____
2. Where was Elijah sitting when king Ahaziah's soldiers found him? _____
3. Which three nations came to make war with Jehoshaphat? _____
4. What did God send to earth to take Elijah back to heaven? _____
5. What piece of clothing did Elijah leave for Elisha? _____



SABBATH

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for the Sabbath day. Help me to learn something new about Jesus today and what He did for me. Please help me to be a blessing to someone today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

“...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's”.

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Kings 2:19-25



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

After King Ahab died, his son Ahaziah came to the throne. He followed his father and mother in their Baal worship and the Bible says he 'did evil in the sight of the LORD'. Ahaziah was injured when he fell in the palace and he wanted to consult a god to find out if he would be healed. Ahaziah sent his servants to go and enquire from the god Baal-Zebub, who was the god of Ekron. God was saddened that King Ahaziah wanted to consult a false god. So, He sent Elijah to intercept the servants of Ahaziah to tell them to go back to the king with the message that he would not recover from his injury, but would die.

Go back to *Exodus 20:1-6* and read what God had commanded.



FIND A WORD

In our reading today, how many times did the word 'bed' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



The Chariot, the Mantle, and the Bears – 3



MONDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for the blessings which You give me each and every day. Help me to show kindness to someone today so that my light is shining for You. Please come in to my heart.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

“...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's”.

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Kings 1:9-18



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

When Elijah and Elisha arrived at the Jordan River, Elijah struck the water with his mantle and God divided the Jordan so Elijah and Elisha could cross over to the other side. Elijah asked Elisha if he could do anything for him. Elisha knew if he were going to continue the work of Elijah he would need a double portion of the Holy Spirit to help him. Elijah informed Elisha that if he saw him taken to heaven then his request would be granted. Verse 11 tells us that God sent a fiery chariot down to Elijah and whisked off to heaven in a whirlwind, which Elisha fully witnessed. Elijah left his mantle behind for Elisha, which he used to part the Jordan River so he could pass back over to the other side. Fifty prophets from the school at Jericho witnessed Elisha cross the Jordan and realised that he was the prophet to take Elijah's place. They wanted, though, to search for Elijah in case God had taken him elsewhere. Elisha knew he had gone to heaven and told the students that they would not find him, but the prophets went anyway. Three days later they returned from the search unsuccessful.

The story of Enoch has similarities to the story of Elijah. People went out to try and find him but like Elijah, they could not find him. Read *Genesis 5:22-24* and *Hebrews 11:5*.



FIND A WORD

In today's reading, how many times did the word 'mantle' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



The Chariot, the Mantle, and the Bears – 13



FRIDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for keeping me safe this past week. Help me to always have a smile on my face so people notice that I am happy to have You as part of my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

“...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's”.

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:
2 Kings 2:7-18



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that after the servants went back to King Ahaziah to tell him what Elijah said to them, the king wanted to try and stop the judgement pronounced on him. Ahaziah sent a group of fifty soldiers to find Elijah and bring him back to see him. The soldiers found Elijah on top of a hill and ordered him to come down. In response to their ruthless command, fire came down from heaven and consumed them. This happened a second time with another fifty soldiers. The third group of fifty soldiers humbly went and knelt down before the prophet and pleaded for their lives. As a result, Elijah was informed by God, through an angel, that it was safe for him to follow the soldiers to King Ahaziah's palace. Elijah informed Ahaziah that he would indeed die from his injury because he didn't consult God but went out and sought a false god for an answer.

King Ahaziah did know better as he had witnessed the life of his father, King Ahab, and what happened because he did not keep God's commandments. Ahaziah had witnessed the miracles of Elijah, but he still chose not to follow God. After Ahaziah died, his brother Jehoram came to the throne.




FIND A WORD

In today's Bible reading, how many times did the word 'fire' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



The Chariot, the Mantle, and the Bears – 5



TUESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for loving me so much. Thank You for Jesus' sacrifice for me. Please forgive me for my sins and help me to forgive others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

"...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Chronicles 20:1-19



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Remember in last week's study (devotional 47) that God asked Elijah to go and anoint Elisha? Well, that's what we found out about in our reading today. Elisha was working on his father's farm when Elijah found him. Elisha's family were one of the very few who had not gone into Baal worship but worshiped God alone. They knew about Elijah, so when Elijah put his mantle, or cloak, on Elisha's shoulders, Elisha knew God was calling him. He left his home and followed him. Time passed and we pick up the story in the second part of our reading today. Previously we studied that Samuel had set up three schools of the prophets, but over the years they had fallen into disrepair. Elijah had re-established these schools to train the young people in the work of the LORD. Verses 1-3 tell us that, as Elijah and Elisha left the school of the prophets at Gilgal to go the school at Bethel, Elijah didn't want Elisha to continue with him. But God had told Elisha that He was going to take Elijah to heaven. Elisha did not want to leave Elijah, as he wanted to take every opportunity to learn from his mentor. Twice more Elijah told Elisha not to follow him but Elisha would not be turned away.

The mantle of Elijah, which was passed onto Elisha, was a sign that the work of the reformation of Israel was to continue with him. It was like passing the baton in a relay race. The work of the reformation in Israel continued with Elisha for the next fifty years.



FIND A WORD

How many times was the word 'leave' mentioned in our Bible reading of 2 Kings? _____

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





THURSDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for my Mum and Dad who take good care of me. Help me to be kind to my brothers and sisters even if they are not kind to me. Help my light to shine for you today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

“...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's”.

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 19:19-21 &
2 Kings 2:1-6



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Remember how we started to look at the life of King Jehoshaphat last week in Devotional 47? Well today and tomorrow we are going to look at a particular event that happened during his reign. King Jehoshaphat did 'right in the site of the LORD' just like his father king Asa. Our reading today tells us that the nations of Moab, Ammon and Mt Seir came to make war with Judah. Upon hearing this, King Jehoshaphat proclaimed a fast throughout Judah and summoned the people to the temple to pray to God. Jehoshaphat praised God, claimed his promises and asked for deliverance from the enemy. Verse 15 tells us that a Levite named Jahaziel was inspired with a message of hope. He told them not to be afraid but to leave the battle in God's hands. Our memory verse for this week comes from this verse. Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah were so humbled by this message that verse 18 tells us they bowed before God and worshipped Him.

It's interesting that Jehoshaphat turned to God for help and received a beautiful message of hope. On Sunday we studied about King Ahaziah in the north. He did not turn to God for help but chose to find an answer from a false god instead. With Ahaziah, he did not receive a message of hope, but doom. I think this tells us not to forget to seek God today!



FIND A WORD

In today's reading, how many times does the name 'LORD' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



The Chariot, the Mantle, and the Bears – 7



WEDNESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for the promises in the Bible that give us such hope. Help me to read my Bible every day and keep connected to You through prayer. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 20:15

“...Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's”.

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Chronicles 20:20-30



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

From our reading today we discovered that king Jehoshaphat went out to battle with his army, praising God. God caused the armies of Amon, Moab and Mt Seir to fight against each other so when the army of Judah arrived at the battlefield everyone had already died. God had fought their battle for them. The nation of Judah didn't even have to fight. There was so much treasure, or spoil, that it took the people of Judah three days to collect it all. King Jehoshaphat and his army arrived back in Jerusalem with praise and joy on their lips for God. The battle was such an amazing victory that the nations around Judah trembled and there was peace for the rest of Jehoshaphat's reign.

King Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah put their total trust in God. God was faithful and He delivered them. This story is an amazing story of hope for us. God can fight our battles for us too. We only need to trust in Him and claim His promises.



FIND A WORD

In today's Bible reading, how many times did the word 'praise' appear? _____

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



The Chariot, the Mantle, and the Bears – 9