


Heroes of Faith 5: Elisha

July 24–25, 2021

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I. Jesus asks Nazareth, “Where is your faith?”

Luke 4:24–27 (NIV) 24 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. **25** I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. **26** Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. **27** And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.” (Also ref 2 Kings 5)

 Unbelief or a lack of _____ leaves us spiritually blind

II. A Transfer of Faith

1 Kings 19:14 (NIV) 14 Elijah replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

 Don’t lose your _____ in standing for God

1 Kings 19:15–18 (NIV) 15 The Lord said to him [Elijah], “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, **anoint Hazael** king over Aram. **16** Also, **anoint Jehu** son of Nimshi king over Israel, and **anoint Elisha** son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. **17** Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. **18** Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

 God is in the _____ business

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives...”

— Isaiah 61:1 (NKJV)

III. Transformed and Committed

1 Kings 19:19–21 (MSG) 19 Elijah went straight out and found Elisha son of Shaphat in a field where there were twelve pairs of yoked oxen at work plowing; Elisha was in charge of the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak over him. **20** Elisha deserted the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Please! Let me kiss my father and mother good-bye—then I’ll follow you.”

“Go ahead,” said Elijah, “but, mind you, don’t forget what I’ve just done to you.” **21** So Elisha left; he took his yoke of oxen and butchered them. He made a fire with the plow and tackle and then boiled the meat—a true farewell meal for the family. Then he left and followed Elijah, becoming his right-hand man.

 We must _____ to _____ in faith


IV. Life and Ministry

Elisha, whose name means “God is salvation,” was the successor of Elijah in the office of the prophet in Israel (1 Kings 19 — 2 Kings 13). He was called to follow Elijah in 1 Kings 19:19, and he spent the next several years as the prophet’s protégé, until Elijah was taken into heaven. At that time, Elisha began his ministry, which lasted about 60 years, spanning the reigns of kings Jehoram, Jehu, Jehoahaz, and Joash. Elisha received a double portion of God’s power and he was accepted as the leader of the sons of the prophets. Elisha then went on to perform twice as many miracles as Elijah.

 Elisha was living _____ of God in an ungodly time

2 Kings 13:20–21 (NIV) 20 Elisha died and was buried.

Now Moabite raiders used to enter the country every spring. **21** Once while some Israelites were burying a man, suddenly they saw a band of raiders; so they threw the man’s body into Elisha’s tomb. When the body touched Elisha’s bones, the man came to life and stood up on his feet.

 His ministry continued after _____

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This Week’s Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

Sat Rest Sun John 7-8 Mon John 9-10 Tue John 11-12

Wed John 13-14 Thur John 15-16 Fri John 17 Sat Rest