

## ELISHA'S GOD AND OURS

### 2 Kings 13

#### FROM PASTOR MARK

Elijah passed the baton (mantle) to Elisha who asked, "where is Yahweh, the God of Elijah." Throughout 50 years of ministry, Yahweh was faithful and worked through the prophet Elisha. In Bible reading, look for what God is like and what is His plan into which we may fit. We need to know that *He is the same God* (Heb. 13:8).

- I. **OUR LONGSUFFERING GOD (13:1-13)**
  - A. The Sorry State of Israel (13:1-3)
  - B. The Longsuffering of Yahweh (13:4-5; Exodus 2:23-25, 3:9)
  - C. The Continued Waywardness of Israel (13:6-13)
  
- II. **OUR TRUSTWORTHY GOD (13:14-19, 25)**
  - A. The Merciful Role of Elisha (13:14)
  - B. The Merciful Prophecy of Elisha (13:15-17)
  - C. The Half-hearted Response of Jehoash (13:18-19)
  - D. The Trustworthiness of Yahweh (13:25)
  
- III. **OUR EVERLASTING GOD (13:20-21)**
  - A. Elisha's Quiet Death (13:20a)
  - B. Miracles Continue! (13:20b-21)
  - C. Where is the God of Elisha?
  - D. The Everlasting God (Matthew 22:29-32)
  
- IV. **OUR COVENANT-KEEPING GOD (13:22-25)**
  - A. The Preservation of Israel (13:22, 24-25)
  - B. The Reason—The LORD keeps His covenants (13:23)
  - C. The New Covenant and You (Hebrews 9:15, 7:25)

What a God, the God of Elisha!

What does it mean for you that God is the same God... Longsuffering, Trustworthy, Everlasting, and Covenant-keeping?

**FOR NEXT TIME:** Read Matthew 1, *The Depths of Christmas*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR DECEMBER 10, 2023

1. Read 2 Kings 13:1-6. How do these verses show the longsuffering of God and the waywardness of people?
2. Read 2 Kings 13:17-19. Since the arrows represented "the LORD's arrow of victory... over Syria," why was the king's action so disappointing? How does this illustrate the half-heartedness of many Christians?

3. How do the attributes of God from this chapter impact your daily life: His longsuffering, trustworthy, everlasting, covenant-keeping?
4. Also, how do these same attributes of God show up through the reality of Christmas?
5. Read Hebrews 13:8. Why is it such good news that our Savior is immutable?
6. Spend some time praying for IBC's Christmas outreach and for your own witness this Christmas.