

I. Intro

A. Text: **2 Kings 2:9-11**

⁹ And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?” Elisha said, “Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.” ¹⁰ So he said, “You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so.” ¹¹ Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven (2 Kings 2:9-11).

B. Recap

1. National Climate
 - a. Apostasy
 - b. Division
 - c. Crisis In Leadership
2. Elijah stood before God on behalf of the nation.
 - a. Prayed that the heavens would shut (**1 Kings 17**).
 - i. **James 5:17**: *Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.*
 - b. Prayed for an open heaven (**1 Kings 18**).
 - i. **James 5:18**: *And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.*
3. Threats from Jezebel Sent Elijah into a wilderness.
 - a. Paralyzed By Fear
 - i. **1 John 4:18**: *¹⁸ There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment.*

4. God Can Use Your Wilderness... To Launch You into Your Next Season.

- a. Elijah stayed in his season of pity, until he found a young protégé to invest in.
 - i. Almost lost his focus and his direction in ministry, until he found someone to train up and disciple.
- b. Elijah found Elisha in the field, plowing with 12 yoke of oxen.
 - i. Elijah walked by and threw his mantle on the young man and kept it moving.
- c. The springboard to Elijah's path out of His wilderness, was a young man named Elisha.

II. Body

A. Got My Eye On You

1. Elisha watched Elijah foretell how Ahab and Jezebel would die.
 - a. **1 Kgs. 21:19**: "*In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick up your blood...*"
 - b. **1 Kgs. 21:23**: "...*The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel*"
2. Elisha watched Elijah confront Ahab's son, King Ahaziah, and read his mail... Informing him that he would soon die (**2 Kings 1**).
 - a. Is it because there is no god in Israel... Ekron?
 - b. **Deut. 18:22**: ²¹*You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?"* ²²*If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.* (**Deut. 18:21-22**)
3. Elisha watched how King Ahaziah tried to have 50 armed men stop the move of God on Elijah's life.

a. 2 Kings 1:9-10:

⁹ Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty men. So he went up to him; and there he was, sitting on the top of a hill. And he spoke to him: “Man of God, the king has said, ‘Come down!’”

¹⁰ So Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, “If I am a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men.” And fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty (2 Kgs. 1:9-10)

b. 2 Kings 1:11-12:

¹¹ Then he sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty men. And he answered and said to him: “Man of God, thus has the king said, ‘Come down quickly!’” ¹² So Elijah answered and said to them, “If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men.” And the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

4. Elisha watched on as King Ahaziah died exactly how Elijah declared he would.

a. 2 Kings 1:16-17a:

¹⁶ Then he said to him, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.’” ¹⁷ So Ahaziah died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. (2 Kings 1:16-17a)

B. When You Move... I Move

*Refused to Allow Anything to Separate Him From His Mentor

1. The Trip

a. Gilgal to Bethel (**2 Kings 2:1-2**)

*And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. ² Then Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!” So they went down to Bethel (**2 Kings 2:1-2**).*

- i. Your Master Is Leaving Today (**v. 3**)

- b. Bethel to Jericho (**2 Kings 2:4**)

*Then Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!” So they came to Jericho. (**2 Kings 2:4**).*

- i. Your Master Is Leaving Today (**v.5**)

- c. Jericho to the Other Side of Jordan (**2 Kings 2:6**)

*“Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!” So the two of them went on (**2 Kings 2:6**).*

- C. If You Cross, I'm Crossing Too (**2 Kings 2:7-8**)

*And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing *them* at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan. ⁸ Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled *it* up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground. (**2 Kings 2:7-8**)*

- 1. Mantle Split the waters of the Jordan (**v.8**)

- a. Audience of 50 (**v.7**)
 - b. Something About the Mantle that Made a Difference
 - c. Crossed over on dry ground

- 2. Time With Your Spiritual Father Is Seasonal (**2 Kings 2:9**)

*And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?” Elisha said, “Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.” (**2 Kings 2:9**)*

- a. What do you want out of this season together?

- i. A Son's Inheritance
 - ii. Double for My Trouble
 - iii. The Firstborn's Inheritance

3. Hard Thing: Only God Could Do It (**2 Kings 2:10**)

*¹⁰ So he said, “You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so.” (**2 Kings 2:10**)*

a. If You Keep Eyes On Me

III. Conclusion

A. Separation Is Painful, But Needful (**2 Kings 2:11-12**)

*¹¹ Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, “My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!” So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces (**2 Kings 2:11-12**).*

1. Chariots of Fire Separated
2. Whirlwind Violently Swept Elijah

B. Greater Works

1. Pick Up The Mantle and Run With It (**2 Kings 2:13**)

*¹³ He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. (**2 Kings 2:13**)*

2. Work What You Got In Your Hands (**2 Kings 2:14**)

*¹⁴ Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, “Where is the LORD God of Elijah?” And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over. (**2 Kings 2:14**)*

- a. Strike the Jordan and Cross Over
- C. The Same Spirit That Was On the Master... (**2 Kings 2:15a**)

*¹⁵ Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him. (**2 Kings 2:15a**)*