

SENIOR PROPHET

II Kings 2:13-25

**When introducing Elisha as the new Senior Prophet,
God gives him credentials that show
God's people that this is God's man.**

I. THE CLOAK (13)

- Elijah's mantle

A. PARTICULARLY

- This was a badge of office – an outward identifier of his office

B. PERSONALLY

- This served Elisha as a reminder of his master

C. PRACTICALLY

- Elisha needed a new covering

II. THE CROSSING (14)

A. ELISHA'S PATH

1. The river was Elijah's path to glory
2. It would be Elisha's path to a new ministry

B. ELISHA'S PURPOSE

1. Confirmation: A sign to him and his watchers that he was God's man
2. Continuation: A sign to him and his watchers that he would continue where Elijah left off

C. ELISHA'S PRACTICES

- He would continue to use the same methods that his master had used

D. ELISHA'S PIETY

1. He appealed to the God of Elijah
2. He did not appeal to Elijah as some super-saint or intercessor

III. THE COLLEGE (15-18)

- The sons of the prophets

A. THE STUDENT'S ESTEEM (15)**1. Their Conclusion**

- They could tell that the spirit of Elijah rested on Elisha

2. Their Congratulations

- Giving appropriate honor and respect by bowing before him

B. THE STUDENT'S EFFORTS (16-18)**1. Their Determination (16)**

- They needed to be certain that Elijah was truly and permanently gone

2. Elisha's Decision (17)

- Yielding to their persistence

3. Elisha's Declaration (18)

- Their stubbornness needed to be addressed

IV. THE CLEANSING (19-22)

- Purifying Jericho's well

A. THE APPEAL (19)

- The men of the city inform Elisha that their water is bad for drinking and irrigation

B. THE ACTION (20-21a)**1. They comply with Elisha's request for salt and a jar****2. Elisha had to go to the spring and throw in the salt****C. THE ANNOUNCEMENT (21b)****D. THE AFTERMATH (22)**

- The fix was permanent and the waters remained pure

V. **THE CURSE** (23-25)

- Bethel's boys

A. COMPETITION

- There is religious competition in town between the God-worshippers and the calf-worshippers

B. CONTEMPT (23)

1. Their malady

- Seeking to discredit Elisha and make him unpopular

2. Their mockery

a. Go up! > Go away!

b. You baldhead!

- A term of contempt sometimes associated with God's disapproval – See Is. 3:17 & 24

3. Their mistake - II Chron. 36:15-16

- Challenging Elisha's authority and credentials

C. CONDEMNATION (24a)

1. Elisha's Look: Seeing no redeeming qualities or innocence in them

2. Elisha's Words: The mouth of divine judgment

D. CALAMITY (24b-25)

1. Dead Children - See Lev. 26:1-22

2. Distraught parents

3. Dread of God

4. Deference to Elisha (25)

CONCLUSION:

God wants His people to know that when ministry transitions come, He will be there to reveal His will and reassure His people.

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