

Elisha - Demonstrating the Power of God

II Kings 2:15-25



5/7/2023 AM

Introduction:

I. A FUTILE SEARCH (vs. 15-18)

A. Who are these sons of the prophets? (vs. 15)

“the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho”

“The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.”

“they came to meet him and bowed themselves to the ground before him”

B. What was their problem? (vs. 16)

“fifty strong men”

“let them go and search for your master; perhaps the Spirit of the LORD has taken him up and cast him on some mountain or into some valley”

“You shall not send.”

C. How did that go for them? (vs. 17-18)

“when they urged him until he was ashamed, he said, ‘Send.’ ”

“they searched three days but did not find him”

“they returned to him while he was staying at Jericho”

“Did I not say to you, ‘Do not go’?”

II. A FAVORABLE SOLUTION (vs. 19-22)

A. Bad Water and Barren Land (vs. 19)

“the men of the city”

“the situation of this city is pleasant”

“but the water is bad and the land is unfruitful”

B. Pure Water and Productive Land (vs. 20-21)

“Bring me a new jar and put salt in it.”

“He went out to the spring of water and threw salt in it...”

“Thus says the LORD, ‘I have purified these waters; there shall not be from there death or unfruitfulness any longer.’ ”

C. “According to the word of _____” (vs. 22)

“so the waters have been purified to this day”

“according to the word of Elisha which he spoke”



III. A FEARSOME SANCTION (vs. 23-25)

A. The Bad Boys Mock (vs. 23)

“he went up from there to Bethel”

“as he was going up by the way, young lads came out from the city and mocked him”

“Go up, you baldhead; go up, you baldhead!”

B. The Baldhead Makes a Response (vs. 24)

“When he looked behind him and saw them, he cursed them in the name of the LORD.”

C. The Bears Maul the Boys (vs. 25)

“then two female bears came out of the woods and tore up forty-two lads of their number”

“he went from there to Mount Carmel and from there he returned to Samaria”

Conclusion:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Food for Thought:

- 1) What does this text tell us about the leadership transition between Elijah and Elisha?
- 2) What would you say is the significance of Elisha’s healing the spring at Jericho?
- 3) What was the sin of “the bad boys of Bethel”?
- 4) How does any of this apply in a local church situation?