

September 25, 2021

Double Portion

Elijah first appears in **1 Kings 17:1** and declares a drought to the wicked King of Israel Ahab. The Lord then told Elijah to go to the Brook of Cherith and the ravens would feed him. "In the third year" God told Elijah to go to King Ahab and He would send rain on the earth (directions through prophecy).

1 Kings 18:17-19 *Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, **O troubler of Israel?**" 18 And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals. 19 Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at **Jezebel's table.**"*

Satan is the Accuser and he accuses the Saints for what he is guilty of. This is happening in our world today.

1 Kings 18:20-21 *So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel. 21 And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "**How long will you falter between two opinions?** If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word.*

Christians today are faltering between two opinions; the ways of this world and Jesus Christ as Lord of all.

1 Kings 18:36-40 *And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. 37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You are the Lord God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."*

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. **39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"**

40 And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there.

Elijah then went to the top of Mount Carmel, prayed **seven times**, and a rain cloud appeared, and then it poured. Jezebel was upset that Elijah killed her prophets and pledged to kill Elijah and he ran in fear. He became depressed and called out to God:

1 Kings 19:14-21 *And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." 15 Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, **anoint Hazael as king over Syria.** 16 Also you shall **anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel.** And **Elisha** the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall **anoint as prophet in your place.** 17 It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. 18 Yet I have **reserved seven thousand** in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."*

Here we see again how God directs His people through His prophetic Word.

There are many more powerful men and women of God around us than we realize.

19 So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and **threw his mantle on him.** **20 And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah, and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you."**

And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?"

21 So Elisha turned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen and slaughtered them and boiled their flesh, using the oxen's equipment, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

This showed the commitment of Elisha with a “**no turning back**” attitude.

2 Kings 2:9-10 *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.***

The “double portion” is the Spirit of the Lord.

Elisha did twice as many miracles as Elijah did!

Elijah called down fire and judgement, but Elisha had a greater ministry of restoration. Jesus said, John the Baptist had the spirit of Elijah, and many theologians say Elisha is a type and shadow of Jesus.

Elisha followed Elijah for **20** years (23 years?). As far as we know, Elijah had no children. The “double portion” was the privilege of the firstborn son. Elisha knew he would need a greater anointing to carry out the work that Elijah has started and knew the “double portion” blessing, so he asked for it.

LSC started with the Elijah **double portion** before we were a church.

In August of 1999 during the annual celebration at the church I attended a special guest speaking came from Queensland Australia named Pastor Bill Pryor. Unexpectedly he brought me to the altar, christened me on both shoulders with the Lead Pastor’s sport coat imparting a **double portion of the Elijah spirit**.

20 months later, we had our first service as Lights of Hope Ministry. We just celebrated our **20th** year anniversary. It is believed that Elisha was **20** years old when Elijah placed his mantle upon him.

Rom 8:23-24 *Not only that, but we also who have the **firstfruits of the Spirit**, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.*

Firstfruits are connected to the firstborn. We as Christians are born again of the Spirit of God as His children, His firstfruits after Jesus.

Are we willing to leave all like Elisha did and follow Jesus? I believe to those who answer “Yes” from the bottom of their heart, God will bless with a “double portion,” but we have to ask. Life Song Church today is receiving a “double portion,” a mantle God wants each of us to carry, but that is up to you.