

RON COTTLE MINISTRIES

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“HOW TO RECEIVE YOUR APOSTOLIC MANTLE”

2 KINGS 2:1-10 (KJV)

1 *“And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.*

2 *And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.*

3 *And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.*

4 *And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho.*

5 *And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.*

6 *And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on.*

7 *And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan.*

8 *And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.*

9 *And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.*

10 *And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee: but if not, it shall not be so.”*

INTRODUCTION

- This story of Elijah and Elisha has shed incredible insight and revelation on how the **mantle of ministry** is transferred.
- The double portion anointing was not the **purpose** of Elisha’s pursuit, it was the **reward** of it!
- There is always a great reward for sons and daughters who know God has **linked** them to a spiritual father to whom they have stayed faithful — even through times of adversity!

**PROPOSITION - THERE ARE SEVERAL THINGS ELISHA DID TO RECEIVE
THE MANTLE OF HIS SPIRITUAL FATHER ELIJAH**

1) FIRST: HE BURNED HIS PLOW AND SLAUGHTERED HIS OXEN.

a. He sowed his present to reap his future.

- i) He went “all in.”
- ii) He didn’t “hedge his bet” — there was no turning back!!

b. He sowed his personal ambitions to reap his spiritual assignment.

- i) He realized that his present was a seed and not a harvest.
- ii) He realized he could not reap from something he had not sown into, so he started the sowing process in earnest!

c. He qualified for a double portion anointing by sowing a double portion seed!!

- i) He realized that he could not take the “plows” of his present into the “promised land” of his future!!
- ii) He realized that if he kept what he had, it would be all he ever had.
- iii) If you let go of what you have, it will be the beginning of all that you will ever receive!
- iv) Seed is not just an offering of choice, it is a vehicle of movement!!
- v) When you send something of your present as a seed, it goes into your future and prepares the soil of your future for your arrival!!!

**BURN YOUR PLOW...GO ALL IN...QUALIFY FOR A DOUBLE PORTION
ANOINTING BY SOWING DOUBLE PORTION SEED**

NOTES

2) SECOND: ELISHA DISCONNECTED FROM WHAT OTHERS THOUGHT TO PURSUE WHAT HE KNEW!

- a. *“And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.” (2 Kings 2:50)*
- b. **Elisha understood the relationship of focus to your destination.**
 - i) Driving an automobile... (You go where you look.)
 - ii) “What you look at the longest will either pull you up or drag you down!”
 - iii) Elisha understood that he was not required to defend where he was going to those who were not going there!
 - (1) People who are for you will either go with you or help you get there!
 - (2) But people who are against for you will just have to watch you get there!
 - iv) Elisha understood that the minute you open up to opinions, focus walks out!!
- c. **People who are for you will increase your focus; people who are not for you will decrease your focus!**
 - i) Disconnect from what others think and pursue what you know!

3) THIRD: HE FOLLOWED HIS SPIRITUAL FATHER WITHOUT THE GUARANTEE OF A SPECIFIC RESULT!!

- a. *“And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. 10 And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.” (2 Kings 2:9-10)*
 - i) He realized that he would never reach greatness unless he was connected to greatness!
 - ii) He sowed his seed of faithfulness into the man of God even when neither of them had a clear vision of his future.
 - iii) Elisha was willing to pursue without knowing the end result!
 - iv) Sometimes we must follow instructions without explanations!!!

b. True spiritual sons don't ask "What's in it for me?"

- i) Elijah promised a **mantle** — that's all he could really do!
 - (1) It's not a **deal**; it's a **destiny**!
 - (2) It's not a **contract**; it's a **covenant**!
- ii) What that mantle...anointing...calling...ultimately consisted of was up to **God** and **Elijah!!!**

4) FOURTH: HE RECEIVED HIS APOSTOLIC MANTLE BECAUSE HE KNEW THE POWER OF PURSUIT!

a. One not willing to pursue is not ready to possess!

- i) Ruthless **abandonment** brings realistic **achievement**.
- ii) Mantle possession is for the **hungry** not the **haughty**!
- iii) You must pursue **before** you receive!

LISTEN...

b. You will never possess anything until your desire for it overwhelms your ability to live without it!!

- i) A true spiritual son does not want what his father **has**...he wants what **has** his father!
- ii) He doesn't want his **"stuff;"** he wants his **spirit**!
 - (1) And with that spirit he will **build** his own "stuff."
 - (2) Then it will be **his** — not his **father's**!
 - (3) He will be the **owner** — not the **caretaker**!

c. The only material thing that came to Elisha was Elijah's mantle!

- i) That mantle was **worthless** by itself... but when Elisha picked it up and began to use it in his own way, everyone began to realize what it meant — they said:

"THE SPIRIT OF ELIJAH DOTH REST ON ELISHA"

- ii) Trans-generational anointing had taken place.

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b. He sowed his personal _____ to reap his spiritual _____.

- i) He realized that his present was a _____ and not a _____.
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c. He qualified for a double portion _____ by sowing a double portion _____!!

- i) He realized that he could not take the “_____” of his present into the “_____” of his future!!
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