

INSTRUCTIONS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Dr. Peter D. Wyns Entry 5 - 3

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The Elijah Journey

The Elijah journey is the road that leads to a life of miracles. It is about the call of God and your response to it. This is a divine journey that you must take if you want to reach the best that God has for you. It only requires one step at a time but it is easy to miss. If you decide to take this all-important journey God will reward you. Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His right-eousness and all of these other things shall be added unto you." Mt. 6:33 Nobody but you can walk your God-journey. When you discover your personal Elijah journey and you stay on it, you will find that it is very demanding. It will lead you, however, to the purpose and power of God.

Here are 5 things about your journey that will help you reach your destination. To share these things we will look at Elijah and his disciple Elisha. First, I encourage you to read 2 Kings chapters one and two.

1. Obscurity

The first thing about the Elijah journey is that it begins in obscurity. That is the place of solitude and shadows where a person is not sure about their future and they are unknown. Your journey does not begin with fame, fortune or public recognition. Both Elijah and Elisha begin with God, in obscurity. Elijah was a Tishbite, a Jew from the unknown town of Tishbe in Gilead. It is about 60 miles northeast of Jerusalem. When Elijah appears on the scene we do not know who he is or any details about his family. Although he is Israel's most powerful prophet he seems to come out of nowhere. Likewise, Elisha was a farmer, not a preacher. When Elijah called him, he stopped his business, settled things at home and followed the man of God. These men had different beginnings but God prepared them in obscurity. God is not looking

for copies, He makes originals. That is why He must meet you in the secret place. When the time comes, He will call you to take the Elijah journey. You will not find this path in the school of the prophets, in a church or from your father, even if he is a powerful man of God. These things are good and may be part of your training but your journey begins in the secret place of obscurity, with God alone.

2. Find Your Focus

At the beginning of your journey, you will find yourself doing many different things, as you serve the Lord. You will know that you are maturing in the ministry when you choose to focus on that which God is emphasizing in your life. If you try to focus at the very beginning before you serve in a variety of ways, you will not go forward. God looks for hard workers. Elisha, for example, was a farm manager, He led 12 teams of oxen and administrated the entire business. He had to wait before finding his focus. When God told him to become Elijah's servant, he left everything and focused on that which God said

was important. Your path might not be to follow another person but one day, it will take on a sharp focus. Once you recognize your focus, follow it with all of your heart. You must stop being a Jack of all trades and do the one thing that is a consuming fire within you. What you do may have variety but it should all be a part of your call. Do not do things just because you can.

3. Commit To the Journey

Elisha did not receive the anointing right away; He had to pass a test first. On the day that Elijah was taken, God whispered in Elisha's spirit that he should not leave Elijah's side. Then God gave Elisha opportunities to miss his call; He gave him 3 exit ramps. Elijah went to visit 3 prophetic teams. One, in Gilgal and the others were in Bethel and Jericho. Perhaps Elijah wanted to see the students before leaving. Elisha was friends with the prophets. At each school Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here with your friends, I am going to another place." Elisha said, "No, I will not leave you!" He knew in his heart, that these were exit ramp opportunities. He could get off the path and still walk with God but if he did he would never become like

Elijah. Elisha was committed to the journey that God had designed for him. God will give you opportunity to take a lesser road but you will not find the Elijah blessing unless you commit to the journey. You must not quit. Three times the prophets said to Elisha. "Today God is taking your master from you." They could hear God but they were not on the Elijah journey. Elisha said, "Be quiet." There are times when we do not want to hear a good idea or an obvious directive from another Christian. We must receive a word from God and not be distracted. Elisha told them to be quiet because he was in transition and did not want to miss the voice of God. The prophets may have thought that he was rude but Elisha would not hang out with them nor would he take an exit ramp.

4. Crossing Over

Finally, Elijah and Elisha crossed over the Jordan. The prophets of Jericho were watching from a distance. There is a point on your journey when you must cross over. You do not have the anointing but you do what God tells you. Others are watching and you are not sure what will happen. You obey the Lord and press forward. After crossing over, Elijah asked Elisha what he wanted. Only after you cross over will God ask you what you want.

Before then He will not ask and you would not know what to answer if He did. Elisha said, "I want a double portion of your spirit." Elijah said, "You will only receive this if you see me when I am taken." If Elisha was told this before crossing over, there would have been no test and the other prophets would have heard it and all of them would have crossed over with Elisha. Then nothing would have happened.

5. Walk in the Anointing

Suddenly a chariot of fire took Elijah and Elisha received his mantel. He had passed the test and the anointing came on him. Then he began to walk with God's power. He struck the waters of the Jordan and they parted. He went to Jericho and healed the well water. Miracles started to flow through him as he stepped out in faith. Elisha began to exercise the authority that God gave him. He became a mature traveler on the Elijah road. You have been called to take the Elijah test as well. It starts in secret, becomes focused, requires absolute commitment, involves a crossing over and finally you must learn to exercise the anointing. Keep asking God for your call and get ready. He will show you your Elijah journey. $A\Omega$



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