

2 KINGS CHAPTER 2

¹ And it came to pass, when the Lord was about to take Elijah with a whirlwind into heaven, that Elijah and Elisha went out of Gilgal. ² And Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please; for God has sent me to Bethel." And Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they came to Bethel. ³ And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord this day is going to take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know *it*; be silent." ⁴ And Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." And he said, "As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." And they came to Jericho. ⁵ And the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord this day is going to take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know *it*; hold your peace." ⁶ And Elijah said to him, "Stay here please, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." And Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." And they both went on. ⁷ And fifty men of the sons of the prophets *went also*, and they stood opposite *the Jordan*, afar off; and both stood on *the bank* of the Jordan. ⁸ And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and struck the water, and the water was divided on this side and on that side, and they both went over on dry ground.

⁹ And it came to pass while they were crossing over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken up from you." And Elisha said, "Let there be a double *portion* of your spirit upon me." ¹⁰ And Elijah said, "You have asked a hard thing: if you shall see me when I am taken up from you, then shall it be so to you; and if not, it shall not be *so*." ¹¹ And it came to pass as they were going, that they went on talking; and behold, a chariot of fire *appeared*, with horses of fire, and it separated the two of them; and Elijah was taken up in a whirlwind into heaven.

¹² And Elisha saw, and cried, "Father, father, the chariot of Israel, and his horseman!" And he saw him no more. And he took hold of his garments, and tore them into two pieces. ¹³ And he took up the mantle of Elijah, which fell from off him upon Elisha; and Elisha returned, and stood upon the brink of the Jordan. ¹⁴ And he took the mantle of Elijah, which fell from off him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And he struck the waters, and they were divided this way and that; and Elisha went over. ¹⁵ And the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho on the opposite side saw him, and said, "The spirit of Elijah has rested upon Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed down before him to the ground. ¹⁶ And they said to him, "Behold now, *there are* with your servants fifty men of strength: let them go now, and seek your master: perhaps the Spirit of the Lord has taken him up, and cast him into the Jordan, or on one of the mountains, or on one of the hills." And Elisha said, "You shall not send *them*." ¹⁷ And they pressed him until he was ashamed; and he said, "Send *them*." And they sent fifty men, and sought *him for* three days, and did not find him. ¹⁸ And they returned to him, for he dwelt in Jericho. And Elisha said, "Did I not say to you, 'Do not go?'"

¹⁹ And the men of the city said to Elisha, "Behold, the situation of the city *is* good, as *our* lord sees; but the waters *are* bad, and the ground barren." ²⁰ And

Elisha said, "Bring me a new pitcher, and put salt in it." And they took *one*, and brought *it* to him. ²¹ And Elisha went out to the spring of the waters, and cast in the salt there, and said, "Thus says the Lord: 'I have healed these waters; there shall be no more death there or barrenness.'" ²² And the waters were healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.

²³ And he went up there to Bethel. And as he was going up by the road, there came up also little children from the city, and mocked him, and said to him, "Go up, baldhead, go up!" ²⁴ And he turned after them, and saw them, and cursed them in the name of the Lord. And behold, there came out two bears out of the woods, and they mauled forty-two children among them. ²⁵ And he went from there to Mount Carmel, and returned from there to Samaria.