

July 4–10

2 Kings 2–7

“There is a Prophet in Israel”



Elisha Receives the Mantle

1Kng 19:16,19-20

What do we learn about Elisha from these verses?

Elisha Receives the Mantle

2Kng 2:5-10

Why do you think that, more than anything, Elisha wanted a great abundance of the Spirit of the Lord?

Why was the request from Elisha “a hard thing”?

What was the sign Elisha would receive if the Lord had granted him his request?

Who were the “Sons of the Prophets”?

Douglas L. Callister

"The true Church of Jesus Christ is filled with life. The voice, Spirit, and power of God are found in our worship services, or whenever the ordinances of the holy priesthood are administered.

"Elijah inquired of Elisha, 'Ask what I shall do for thee.' Elisha said, 'I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.' He could not have asked for anything greater....

"With our confirmation as Church members, the door is opened for us to pursue this heavenly endowment. This should be an urgent and lifelong quest.

"As we become more conversant with the Holy Spirit, our lives become refined. The sordid and base have no attraction. It is developed spirituality which separates us from the secular world." (CR, Oct. 2000)

John Taylor

“Elisha, knowing that he had something to do and that he was about to be left alone, and that he might be the better prepared to perform the work before him, requested Elijah to let a double portion of his spirit rest upon him. But could Elijah grant his request? No, he could not.” (JD 21:249)

John Taylor

“How did Elijah know that? Because he knew that the Melchisedec Priesthood holds the keys of the mysteries and the revelations of God; and that if he could see him as he ascended, it would be an evidence to him that the Lord had granted his request, although he himself had not power to grant it, Elisha would then know that his prayer was heard.” (JD 21:249)

James E. Talmage

“Samuel, who was established in the eyes of all Israel as a prophet of the Lord, organized the prophets into a society for common instruction and edification. He established schools for the prophets, where men were trained in things pertaining to holy offices; the students were generally called 'sons of the prophets' (1 Kings 20:35; 2 Kings 2:3, 5, 7; 4:1, 38; 9:1). The members seem to have lived together as a society (2 Kings 6:1-4). In the present dispensation, a similar organization was effected under the direction of the prophet Joseph Smith; this also received the name of the School of the Prophets.” (Articles of Faith, pg. 444)

Elisha Receives the Mantle

2Kng 2:11-15

How did Elisha know he had the same
priesthood powers as Elijah?

Why was Elijah translated?

Spencer W. Kimball

"Upon Elisha fell the mantle of Elijah.

"And likewise, the mantle of Joseph Smith fell on Brigham Young when seemed to be transformed before the people who seemed to hear the voice of Joseph and see the person of Joseph. This remarkable miracle was attested to by great numbers of people. The mantle of Joseph fell from Brigham to John Taylor, to Wilford Woodruff, to Lorenzo Snow, to Joseph F. Smith, to Heber J. Grant, to George Albert Smith, and to our Prophet today." (CR, Oct. 1966)

God's Power Through Elisha

Chapters 3 and 4:

- He provides water to the army of Israel so they can defeat their enemies
- He blesses a barren woman to have a son.
- He brings a child back from the dead
- He blesses a widow so that her small supply of oil is multiplied so she can pay off her creditors and provide for her sons
- Feeding of 100 men with but 20 loaves of bread

Elisha and Naaman

2Kng 5:1-4

What do these verses tell us about Naaman?

How did Naaman know about the healing powers of God thru Elisha?

Susan H. Porter

“In the book of 2 Kings, we read of 'a little maid'.... She spoke two sentences with the power of God, testifying to Naaman’s wife: 'Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.'

“Her words of faith were relayed to Naaman, who acted on her words, allowing him to be healed both physically and spiritually.

“We often focus on the servants who convinced Naaman to bathe in the river Jordan, as the prophet Elisha directed, but Naaman would not have even been at Elisha’s door without 'a little maid.'” (CR, April 2022)

Elisha and Naaman

2Kng 5:9-12

Why do you think Elisha's response made Naaman so angry?

Why do you think Elisha didn't respond the way Naaman expected him to?

Victor L. Brown

"Naaman being a man of high position was insulted that Elisha would send a messenger and not show him the respect of coming himself. In addition, the simple nature of the message offended him....

Naaman needed to have the faith of a child to be obedient as a child before his flesh became clean as a little child's." (CR, April 1985)

Elisha and Naaman

2Kng 5:13-14

What argument did his servant use to convince Naaman to do as Elisha had instructed?

Neal A. Maxwell

"Too many of the partially committed, like Naaman, wait for the Lord to bid them to 'do some great thing,' while declining His biddings in small things. When he was humbled and corrected, not only did Naaman's flesh become like that of a little child, but his heart also. Failure to serve the Master in small ways estranges us from Him." (CR, April 2001)

Ralph W. Hardy Jr.

“Latter-day Saints know, as a people, what the Lord’s commandments are and, as never before, are able to hear them from apostles and prophets. We must listen to them. The commandments are relatively easy to understand and simple to follow if we are prepared to accept them with a childlike faith.

“Elisha did not ask Naaman to do 'some great thing.' What was required? To humble himself and do strictly as he had been commanded. We are required to do the same.” (“Naaman and Gehazi”, Ensign, Aug. 2002)

Elisha and Naaman

2Kng 5:15-16

What does Naaman come to know because of his experience?

Why does Elisha refuse to “take a blessing of thy servant”?

Ralph W. Hardy Jr.

“The now humbled Naaman accepted his enlightened servants’ advice and, in an act of great faith, chose to obey.... Returning to Elisha with his retinue of soldiers and servants, Naaman joined his testimony with that of the little Israelite maid: ‘Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel’ (2 Kgs. 5:15). With his physical leprosy gone, Naaman was also healed of his spiritual leprosy by an awakening of faith in the true God.” (“Naaman and Gehazi”, Ensign, Aug. 2002)

M. Russell Ballard

"What a humbling thing it must have been for Naaman to realize how close he came to allowing his own pride and his unwillingness to listen to the counsel of the prophet to prevent him from receiving such a great, cleansing blessing. And what a humbling thing it is to contemplate how many of us might miss out on great and promised blessings because we do not listen and then do the relatively simple things our prophet is telling us to do today." (CR, April 2001)

John H. Vandenberg

"Naaman went back to the Prophet Elisha, filled with gratitude, and offered to pay him for making him whole. But Elisha knew it was by the power of God that Naaman was made well and declined the gift." (CR, Oct. 1964)

Elisha and Naaman

2Kng 5:17-19

Why do you think Naaman would ask for “two mules’ burden of earth”?

How does Naaman demonstrate that he is committed to being obedient to the Lord?

What is Elisha's reply?

Chariots of Fire Fight For Elisha

2Kng 6:15-18

Why do you think Elisha prayed that Lord would open the eyes of the servant?

Neal A. Maxwell

“The young lad didn’t, initially, see what the prophet saw, but that through the help and prayer of the prophet he was able to see; his eyes were opened too.

“There will be other times when we simply have to trust the prophet, for he will see things we do not see.”
(“Teaching Opportunities from the Old Testament”,
Ensign, Apr. 1981)

Michelle D. Craig

"There may be times when you, like the servant, find yourself struggling to see how God is working in your life—times when you feel under siege—when the trials of mortality bring you to your knees. Wait and trust in God and in His timing, because you can trust His heart with all of yours. But there is a second lesson here.... you too can pray for the Lord to open your eyes to see things you would not normally see." (CR, Oct. 2020)

Next Week:

July 11–17

2 Kings 17–25

“He Trusted in the Lord God of Israel”

