

12/10/23

Sunday service

Spiritual Eyes

2 Kings 2:15-25

God gave the covenant to mankind who suffered from original sin. This means that everything that happened because of the original sin can only be resolved through the covenant. Joseph spoke of the covenant once to his brothers, but they didn't listen so he never mentioned it again to them. Even after he became the governor and met his brothers, he never mentioned it. Neither did he mention it to Potiphar's wife. Joseph must have thought to himself, "There is a covenant, so what else is there to say? If the covenant is fulfilled, that's it." This applies to you. There is the covenant so what else do you need? This can be accepted as a question from God to you. May grace be upon you to never forget this covenant so that it will be living in you. May grace be upon you to enjoy this lifelong covenant and receive its blessings.

1. **Spiritual eyes**

- 1) The first story of today's Bible scripture is about the people who went to find Elijah's body after he ascended to heaven. Elisha received the double portion of the Holy Spirit and power from Elijah. The prophet's disciples came to Elisha, bowed to him, and said they would find Elijah's body.
- 2) They were concerned that the Holy Spirit of the Lord might've carried him and thrown his body into some mountain or valley. When they told Elisha this, he told them not to go.
- 3) Verse 17 "But when they urged him till he was ashamed." Elisha had no choice but to send them away, and after three days of searching, he could not find him and returned back.
- 4) This may be a story that people just pass by, but something like this could happen a lot in your life, so you must think about it.
- 5) Elisha knew everything, but the prophet disciples didn't. That's why even when Elisha, who knew everything, told the disciples not to go, they didn't listen to him. Instead, they would barge in with numbers and put Elijah to shame. Being brave may be the problem, but the bigger issue is whether they knew about Elijah's ascension.
- 6) Elisha eventually lost. They urged him until he was ashamed. However, they sought out after him and could not find him. They did what was not needed. The men were able to see that Elisha had received Elijah's portion and came back to bow before him. Their words must be heard, but that is a separate story.
- 7) This bible story ends in three days. However, do you think the disciples face trials and errors after this? It depends on whether or not they received Elisha's words absolutely or not.
- 8) Then why would this occur? This is because they did not have spiritual eyes. It is because there is a difference in their spiritual eyes. It is the difference in the levels of their spiritual state. This is not the best expression to explain it, but it is the truth that their levels are different.
- 9) You will suffer if you do not have spiritual eyes. You can spend lots of time doing useless things, doing things that do not need to be done, or even make wrong decisions. There are many instances when you do not realize the reality after making a wrong decision. You may think that you did a good job or made the right decision. You may open your spiritual eyes in the future and look back to laugh at the past.
- 10) Truthfully, Elisha's word should have been chosen, but the fifty people won against him. This can happen and can occur to you. If this happens, you may go places that you did not need to go or go on a wrong path.
- 11) May your spiritual eyes open so that you do not face such trial and error in your life. Your spiritual eyes will open depending on how much you understand the covenant and God's desire. And it depends on your understanding of Christ and world evangelization.

2. **The covenant of the salt**

- 1) The second bible story records the healing of the water of that city. Although they used salt, it was already stated by the Lord (Verse 21). The words that the Lord spoke were relayed and healed the water accordingly.

- 2) The salt signifies Christ. The reason you are the salt of the earth is because Christ is the salt of this earth. (Matthew 5:13) It is only Christ who can do this and nothing else can keep the world from suffering.
- 3) Leviticus 2:13 states, "You shall season all your grain offerings with salt. You shall not let the salt of the covenant with your God be missing from your grain offering; with all your offerings you shall offer salt."
- 4) Numbers 18:19 states, "It is a covenant of salt forever before the LORD for you and for your offspring with you." Christ is the salt of the earth and the world will never suffer with Christ. Christ is eternally the covenant of the salt for mankind and this earth.
- 5) The Word of the salt healed the water of that city. May you experience healing by the covenant. Those who hold onto, confess, and enjoy the covenant of Christ will be able to have victory and conquer with healing.

3. **God's servant, Elisha**

- 1) Today's bible passage is quite shocking. 2 Kings 23-24 "He went up from there to Bethel, and while he was going up on the way, some small boys came out of the city and jeered at him, saying, "Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead!" And he turned around, and when he saw them, he cursed them in the name of the LORD. And two she-bears came out of the woods and tore forty-two of the boys."
- 2) There can be many excuses of why the small boys said that to Elisha. If it was anyone else, it can be understood. However, it was Elisha, who should have been filled with God's love, yet he turned around and cursed them in the name of the Lord to which the two she-bears came and tore forty-two of the boys.
- 3) Even if they were small boys, it was God's message that no one should look down upon Elisha. No one can be an exception including the small boys. All the Israelites were completely shocked. It is the same content of the message regarding the Bible passage that was mentioned a couple weeks ago regarding the person of God and the fellow prophet.
- 4) When the small boys saw the prophet, they should have greeted him and received prayer, but they jeered at him and called him names. God gave the absolute authority to Elisha to do important works through him.
- 5) However, the small boys jeered Elisha. It was the beginning of Elijah's ministry and an important time for one to encourage and lead Elisha.
- 6) There was God's will and reason to why He had killed the forty-two small boys. One may not be able to fully understand the reason. God is at work even now. Absolute is the word to use here. It was God's will to do the Gospel movement through Elisha and did not forgive the small boys.
- 7) There is no such thing as coincidence and for no reason to God. Everything is God's absolute plan and has already been set. The Bible passage is sad, but it must be a very important message to you.
- 8) You will be at loss if you look down at the spiritual leaders. The spiritual leaders are appointed by God to lead God's people. You must respect them and never look down at them before God. You must follow the Word of God that is testified through the spiritual leaders. There are many times many do respect the spiritual leaders, but don't follow the Word of God that is testified through them. May you not look down at the words that are spoken by the spiritual leaders, but hear it as the voice of God. If you do so, God will be pleased and bless you.
- 9) Your spiritual eyes must open. Then, yourself, time, and economy will not go to waste. There must never be the case and time that you make such careless decisions or take the incorrect path that is fitting to your own assertions. If so, you will be at loss. Your spiritual eyes must open and take the path of those whom you respect and follow their lead.
- 10) Also, you must hold to the covenant of the salt that will heal your life, environment, and others. May you be the one that enjoys the covenant of the salt for the rest of your life.
- 11) May you hold to the fundamental message that is mentioned in point three as you live your life having faith in God. May you think about it and hold to God's word which is your spiritual food.