

## MY HELPER #9 ANOINTED TO THE BONE

This message is about the anointing and ministry. It is about passing on what we have to the next generation.

### I. Elijah's Mantle

2Ki 2<sup>8</sup> Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled *it* up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup> And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?”

Elisha said, “Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.”

<sup>10</sup> So he said, “You have asked a hard thing. *Nevertheless*, if you see me *when I am* taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be *so*.” <sup>11</sup> Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire *appeared* with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

<sup>12</sup> And Elisha saw *it*, and he cried out, “My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!” So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. <sup>13</sup> He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. <sup>14</sup> Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, “Where *is* the Lord God of Elijah?” And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over. NKJV

A. Elijah asked Elisha, **the next generation**, “What do you want from me before I go away?” v9

B. The answer of course was “**a double portion** of the spirit that is on you”.

C. Elijah said, “You have asked **a hard thing**”.

We need some people who will ask hard questions!

Most questions these days are easy questions:

“Will you marry me?”

“How much is the monthly payment?”

**Ministers are asking easy questions of churches and churches are asking the easy questions of ministers.....**

III. A young newly elected pastor was asked by a member, “Do you deer hunt?”

The young pastor became nervous not wanting to give a wrong answer when someone else spoke out, “What he wants to know is ‘are you going to schedule revivals during deer season?’”

D. Elisha was in the **right position** (with the master)  
with a **right perspective** (power of God)  
to get the **right prize**. (the mantle of anointing)

## II. Elisha’s bones

2Ki 13 <sup>20</sup> And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. <sup>21</sup> And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band *of men*; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet. KJV

**A. When Elisha dies there was nobody to receive his mantle.**

There was no SUCCESSOR.

B. There is no success without a successor.

C. Because there was no successor the soldiers had to trust the anointing of someone dead.

D. The anointing of Elisha went all the way to the bones. There was no flesh, no blood vessels, just anointing remained.

**It was not until Elisha was dead that he had the anointing to bring a man back to life. We too must be dead to self!**

E. Bones represent structure or identity.  
The bones in **Ezekiel's bone yard** came together after the prophet prophesied to the wind. Israel received their identity back.

**The church should be known as a place where the sinner, dead in his trespasses and sins is raised to newness of life in Christ.**

Why? The anointing of the Spirit should be in the church whether it is large or small.

### **III. Three men should have received Elisha's anointing.**

**A. Gehazi-** 2Ki 5 He was Elisha's servant. He was cursed because he took money that Elisha refused from Namaan for his healing. **TO SOME PEOPLE MONEY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ANOINTING.**

**B. Joash-** He is a King of Israel. He came to Elisha for help. Elisha instructs him to shoot an arrow out of the window and he does. He asked him to take arrows and strike the ground. He does so 3 times and stops. Elisha rails on him for not striking the ground more for it represented the number of battles to be won.

Joash wanted victory but did not give his all. We like Joash offer  
God PARTIAL PRAISE and expect FULL ANOINTING.

### **C. Sons of the prophets**

2Ki 2<sup>15</sup> Now when the sons of the prophets who *were* from Jericho saw him, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.<sup>16</sup> Then they said to him, “Look now, there are fifty strong men with your servants. Please let them go and search for your master, lest perhaps the Spirit of the Lord has taken him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley.” NKJV

They were in the RIGHT PLACE- but missed their SEASON.  
They were present when the mantle fell.  
These actually wanted to go look for the man.  
They were chasing the MAN instead of the MANTLE.  
Too many are pursuing a great man of God instead of the anointing he possesses.

### **The summary of these who did not get the mantle:**

1. Sons of the prophets were TOO EDUCATED TO BE CRAZY.
2. Joash- HAD TO MANY RESOURCES.
3. Gehazi- WOULD MERCHANDISE IT.

### **IV. Who then gets Elisha’s anointing?**

**The soldier that is cast into the tomb** of Elisha is dead.  
Everybody has given up on him. We don’t know his name.  
We don’t know his face.....BUT HE GOT UP WHEN HE  
WAS TOUCHED BY THE ANOINTING.

God is looking for those who are dead...  
Those who everybody else has given up on...  
This anointing is CONTAGIOUS.