

14 – JEHORAM & ELISHA – PART 1 (2 KINGS 3:1-4:44)

I. The Wickedness of Jehoram (2 Kings 3:1-3)

- In the 18th year of Jehoshaphat's reign as king of Judah, Jehoram became king over Israel.
- Ahaziah ruled as king over Israel for 12 years.
- He did evil in the sight of the Lord, but not according to the ways of his father and mother.
- Jehoram put away the sacred pillar of Baal that Ahab his father had made.
- However, he continued to walk according to the sins of Jeroboam.

II. The Rebellion of Moab (2 Kings 3:4-27)

A. Moab Rebels (2 Kings 3:4-5)

- The king of Moab was a sheep breeder and regularly paid a tribute to Israel.
- The tribute included 100,000 lambs and the wool of 100,000 rams.
- When Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against Israel.

B. Jehoram's Alliance with Judah (2 Kings 3:6-12)

- Jehoram gathered all Israel and sent word to Jehoshaphat seeking his help.
- Jehoshaphat agreed to help and it was decided to attack Moab from the south through Edom.
- So, the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom marched with their armies north for seven days.
- They had no water for the army and Jehoram despaired at their plight.
- He claimed that the Lord had delivered the three kings into the hand of Moab.
- Jehoshaphat asked if there was no prophet to inquire of the Lord.
- One of Jehoram's servants said that Elisha, Elijah's servant, was here and they went to him.

C. Elisha's Prophecy (2 Kings 3:13-19)

- Elisha asked Jehoram what did he have to do with him and he should go to the his prophets.
- Jehoram protested saying that the Lord had brought these three kings to go against Moab.
- Elisha stated that were it not for the presence of Jehoshaphat, he would not help Jehoram.

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- Elisha called for a musician and the hand of the Lord came upon him when music played.
- The Lord told them to fill the valley with trenches because he will fill the valley with water.
- He will do this so they can drink and he will deliver the Moabites into their hands.
- The Lord told them to take every fortified city in Moab and destroy the land of the Moabites.

D. The Battle Against Moab (2 Kings 3:20-27)

- In the morning when the grain offering was offered, the land was filled with water.
- Moab had gather all their men and made a stand at their border.
- In the morning, the Moabites saw the water and thought it was blood because of the sun.
- They thought the three kings had killed each other and the spoil was there for the taking.
- They came to the camp of Israel and were attacked.
- Israel and her allies then defeated Moab and destroyed the land.
- Surrounded, the king of Moab offered his own son as a sacrifice.
- This act was repugnant to the three kings and they returned home.

III. The Ministry of Elisha (2 Kings 4:1-44)

A. The Oil for the Widow (2 Kings 4:1-7)

- The widow of one from the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha for help.
- She told the prophet that the creditor was coming to take her two sons as slaves.
- Elisha asked her what she had in the house, to which she replied she only had a jar of oil.
- He told her to close the door behind her and pour the oil into her vessels until they full.
- The oil flowed filling the vessels until there were no more vessels to fill and the oil stopped.
- She then went to Elisha who told her to sell the oil in order to pay her debts and live on the rest.

B. The Shunammite Woman (2 Kings 4:8-37)

- A notable Shunammite woman fed Elisha whenever he would pass by.
- She had her husband make a small upper room for the prophet when he passed by.

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- Elisha asked the woman what she could do for her, but she declined.
- Elisha's servant pointed out that she did not have a son, so Elisha had her called.
- Elisha told her that about this time next year, she would embrace a son.
- She conceived and bore a son as Elisha had said she would.
- When the child grew, he went to his father in the field with the reapers.
- The boy cried out about his head and the father sent the boy to his mother.
- When she held her son for a period of time, he died.
- She placed the boy's body in the upper room and went to find Elisha.
- When she found Elisha, she cried out in anguish that she had not asked for a son.
- Elisha told his servant Gehazi to run ahead with his staff and lay it on the child's face.
- When Gehazi did this, he returned to tell the prophet that the boy was not awakened.
- Elisha went to the boy, where he prayed and lay on the boy seven times.
- After the seventh time, the boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.
- Elisha then called to the woman to take her son, which she did after honoring him.

C. The Poisoned Stew (2 Kings 4:38-41)

- Elisha returned to Gilgal, where there was famine in the land.
- Elisha was sitting with the sons of the prophets and called his servant to make a stew.
- They went out into a field to gather herbs and also gathered unknown wild gourds
- When the men ate the stew, they cried out to Elisha that there was death in the stew.
- Elisha called for flour to be put in the stew and it was then fit to eat.

D. The Feeding of the 100 (2 Kings 4:42-44)

- A man came to Elisha with the first fruits, twenty barley loafs and some ripened grain.
- Elisha told the man to give it to the people so that they can eat.
- The man protested about setting this amount before 100 men.

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- Elisha told him to give it to the people to eat because the Lord called for this.
- The Lord also stated that there would be some left over.
- So the man set the food before them to eat and there was some left over as the Lord has said.