

Faith During Faithless Times

A Study of II Kings

Part I – Double Portion

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2 Kings 2:8-10 (NLT)

8 Then Elijah folded his cloak together and struck the water with it. The river divided, and the two of them went across on dry ground! 9 When they came to the other side, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away.” And Elisha replied, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit and become your successor.” 10 “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah replied. “If you see me when I am taken from you, then you will get your request. But if not, then you won’t.”

Big Idea of the Message: Change and transition are a fact of life. Some changes are for the better, others for the worst.

Application Point: Some things never change. “I the Lord change not.” (Malachi 3:6a NIV) How can we remain faithful to God through changing times? By understanding that change happens and how to navigate it.

Is your life —
a question mark because you’re searching for answers?
a comma because you’re in transition?
a period because everything seems to be at a standstill?
or a dash because you’re in a constant hurry?

Big Difference Between Change and Transition

Change is External: It is something that happens to people, even if they don't welcome it. WITH CHANGE, YOU'RE NOT ALWAYS IN CONTROL.

Transition is Internal: It's what happens in you (internal processes) as you go through change. WITH TRANSITION, YOU'RE IN CONTROL.

The Transition Model

THREE STAGES OF CHANGE

1. THE _____ STAGE

2 Kings 2:9-10 (NKJV)

9 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." 10 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."

We have to accept something is over before we can move forward.

2. THE _____ STAGE

2 Kings 2:11-12 (NLT)

11 As they were walking along and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire appeared, drawn by horses of fire. It drove between the two men, separating them, and Elijah was carried by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 Elisha saw it and cried out, "My father! My father! I see the chariots and charioteers of Israel!" And as they disappeared from sight, Elisha tore his clothes in distress.

3. THE _____ STAGE

2 Kings 2:13-14 (NLT)

13 Elisha picked up Elijah's cloak, which had fallen when he was taken up. Then Elisha returned to the bank of the Jordan River.

14 He struck the water with Elijah's cloak and cried out, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" Then the river divided, and Elisha went across.

ANSWERS:

1. LETTING GO
2. IN-BETWEEN
3. NEW BEGINNING