

Elisha: A Great Prophet

The Wondrous Works of Elisha

2 Kings 4:1-6:7

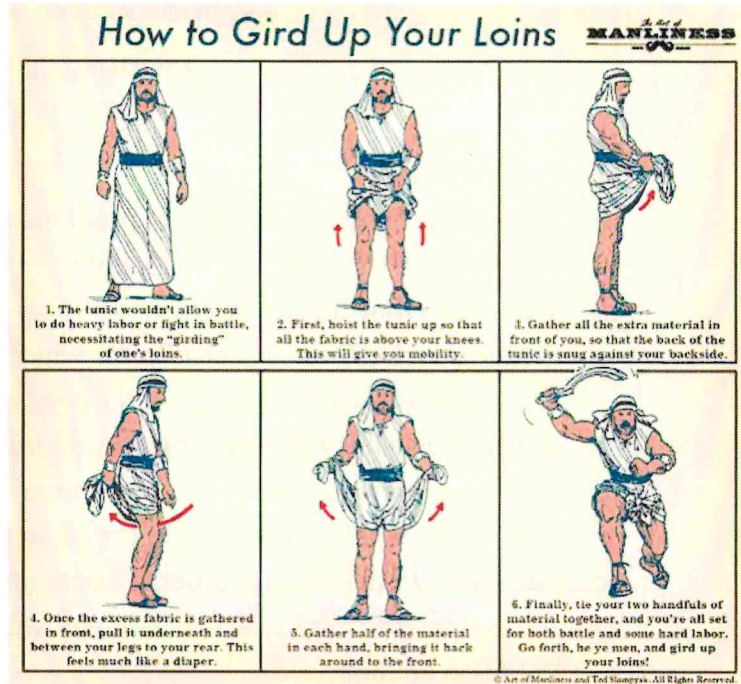
I. The Jar of Olive Oil

- a. "Son of the prophet"-a group of prophets organized around a father figure who mentored or trained them in his work.
- b. Was Elisha that "father figure"?
- c. *Proverbs 22:6-7 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.*
- d. Why not give her whatever she asks for but instead multiply what she already has?
- e. Why do this miracle behind closed doors?
- f. When the Vessels ran out so did the oil, any ideas why?
- g. The Law was meant to protect the poor (among other things) but when the Law failed, the Gospel (the mighty acts of God) provides. (ex. Joseph, Looting of Egypt, Jar of Flour, Wedding at Cana)
- h. God would have us pay our debts (Romans 13:8)

II. The Shunammite Woman

- a. The Birth of a Son (vs 11-17)
 - i. The Shunammite woman with expendable income wants the prophet to choose to stay with her so she adds a room up on the roof for him and Gehazi.
 - ii. How shall Elisha repay this woman?
 1. A good word to the powers that be? No
 2. How about a son? Yes
- b. The Healing of the Son (vs 32-37)
 - i. But the Son becomes ill and dies.
 - ii. "All is well."=shalom
 - iii. Not content with the disciple rather seeks to see the prophet (Woman with the bleeding problem, Zaccheaus, Blind Bartimaeus, Hannah, the Woman who washed Jesus feet with her hair.)

- iv. Gehazi is sent because Elisha is old, but he doesn't have much success (Matthew 17:14-20)
- v. "Prayed to the Lord"-perhaps received instructions
- vi. (I Kings 17:21) He lays on the child like Elijah but we have more detail. He breathes life into the child. The child when from cold (dead) to warm (alive) then to conscious (after sneezing).



III. The Deadly Stew

- a. Prophet came to Gilgal while there was famine.
- b. Rushed young son of the Prophet makes stew with wild gourds that is apparently poisonous.
- c. Why flour?

IV. Naaman Healed of Leprosy

- a. Naaman hears of healing goes to Jehoram King of Israel to get the Prophet to help him. King goes nuts, probably because Kings of Israel and the Prophets don't get along well. Jehoram is Ahab's son. Jehoram has misread the situation thinks Naaman want's him to heal him not the prophet.
- b. Big powerful men seek big powerful answers. Thoughts? (1 Corinthians 1:26-28)
- c. Naaman converts and wants soil! Why?
- d. Gehazi blunders. Is he punished for his impudence or his lying?

V. An Iron Ax Head Floats

- a. It's time for a Building Project!
- b. A borrowed axe would have to be repaid.
- c. Wood floats, so does Iron now.