God Speaks to Elisha

I. Elisha, Elijah's Successor

- Account of Elisha begins at Sinai God is speaking to Elijah – 1 Ki 19:11-14 The Lord passes by in a great display of power Great wind tore up the rocks, an earthquake & fire But when God spoke it was in a low whisper – 15-16 He is to anoint Hazael to be king over Syria He is to anoint Jehu to be king over Israel He is to anoint Elisha to be prophet in his place-19:16
- 2. The ministry of Elijah is to continue in Elisha Elijah anoints Elisha (19:19-21) Then Elisha anoints other two Note Elijah's cloak is cast on Elisha – 19:19 Elisha asks for a double portion of Elijah's spirit – 2 Ki 2:9-10 If God allows him to see Elijah's departure – 10

Elisha tore his clothes in two & took Elijah's cloak 3. Elisha used the cloak to part Jordan – 14

- This affirms that Elijah's power is on Elisha Sons of the prophets recognize this – 15
- Transfer of power may suggest focus God's power in Elijah had dynamic focus God's power just as great in His low whisper Elisha' ministry seems to focus on God's gracious provision
- 5. Elisha promises victory over Moab 2 Ki. 3 Disassociates from Jehoram, son of Ahab – 3:13 He will seek God only because of Jehoshaphat – 14 Predicts that God will give them victory

II. Elisha Ministers to Human Needs – 2 Ki. 4:1-6:7

- Elisha and the widow's oil 4:1-7
 Wife of one of "sons of the prophets"
 Husband is dead, creditor came to take 2 sons
 She has nothing but a jar of oil
 Elisha tells her to borrow jars from neighbors
 Poured oil into empty jars until all were full
 Sell the oil, pay debts, live on the rest
- 2. Elisha and Shunammite woman 4:8-37
 Provided room for Elisha when traveling
 He promised her a son (she was barren)
 Working with his father he died of a stroke 18-20
 She went to find Elisha, seeking his help
 Elisha came and restored him to life 32-37
- Elisha purifies deadly stew 38-41
 In a famine he visits sons of prophets
 They prepare a pot of stew for dinner
 One of them gathered poisonous vine
 Elisha took flour & put it in the pot
 They were able to eat the stew
 - A man brought food for prophets 42-44 Not enough for their 100 men

Elisha promises some would be left over

- 4. Naaman is healed of leprosy 2 ki. 5 God's grace reaches a man in Syria He is commander of Syrian army -5:1On a raid in Israel he took a little girl She became a servant to Naaman's wife She told them about prophet in Israel King gives Naaman leave to go to Israel Takes money to pay for his healing Elisha hears about the problem - 8 Tells King of Israel, send him to me Elisha tells Naaman to wash in Jordan Do it 7 times and you will be healed He leaves angry feeling slighted – 11-12 His men convince him to obey prophet He is completely healed Goes home believing Jehovah is God - 15
- 5. Ax Head is recovered 6:1-7

Elisha In National Affairs – 2 Ki. 6:8-

Elisha & Syrian attacks on Israel – 6:8-23
 Elisha informs king of Israel of Syria's plans
 They were able to defend against Syria
 Syrians locate Elisha in Dothan & attack – 15-16
 Elisha asks God to open his servant's eyes – 17
 He saw mountain filled with horses & chariots of fire
 They surround Elisha with God's protection
 When Syrians attack Elisha prays for blindness
 on them

Elisha leads them to Samaria & King of Israel

- Israel in famine under siege of Syria 6:24-7:20 Elisha promises God will provide food God causes soldiers to hear an army – 7:6 Syrians run and leave all their supplies Food is plentiful as Elisha had promised
- King of Syria is seriously ill 8:7-15 Sends Hazael to Elisha, "Will I recover?" Elisha says "Lord says that he will die" Elisha weeps & Hazael questions him Weeps because evil Hazael will do to Israel God told Elisha Hazael will be king of Syria Hazael returns to Syria and kills the king
- 4. Jehu is anointed king of Israel 9:1-10:36
 Elisha sends a prophet to anoint him
 Jehu assassinates king of Israel & Judah 9:14-28
- 5. Jehu executes Jezebel 9:30-37 He next kills Ahab's descendants – 10:1-17 As God had spoke through Elijah
- 6. Jehu assembled & killed Baal worshippers 10:18-27 As God said to Elijah at Mt. Sinai
- 7. Death and burial of Elisha 13:20-21 With God's power in evidence at his grave