

4 6/1/73

-4

But it is a fact as you look closely at it, and then it is a fact, it is made absolutely clear when you turn over to 2 Ki. 13 where you read about the death of Elisha. And here is Elisha fallen sick of the sickness whereof he died, and Jeash the king of Israel came down unto him and wept over his face and said, Oh my father my father, the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof. And there were no chariots of fire there. There was nothing of an incident like in the case of Elijah. The king is saying, Here is the ~~my~~ man who has been the bulwark of our land. Now I'm not saying Jeash was altogether sincere in that. I think Jeash was a politician of rather low type but I think Jeash was tremendously interested in ~~the~~ representing what would please his people, and when the king came and talked that way to Elisha it showed the attitude of the people of Israel. They recognized that the work Elisha had done was God's bulwark, God's protection ~~of~~ to their nation. So I think there is no doubt we can say that though the ^{words} words may have been suggested to Elisha by seeing chariots of fire that took Elijah up into heaven, that what he meant by them was exactly the same as what the king meant when he used the same words of Elisha, but the difference is that here is one man out in the desert, saying that of ^{Elijah} Elisha, and here is the king representing a nation saying that of Elisha. The two ~~of~~ together are one work which had a tremendous effect in Israel, a tremendous effect. And it would never had had that effect if they had not come in this order.

Now as you go to serve the Lord you will find situations in different ways in different places. You will find that there are situations where there has already been something of a work like Elijah, something that attracts people to the facts about God's greatness and His power but they need teaching, they need guidance, they need the compassionate help such as Elisha gave. And it's tremendously important. Without that the other does not accomplish much. Or you may go into places where people are indifferent and uninterested and you need something to attract their attention, something to rouse their interest, something of the line ~~of~~ like what Elijah did. You want to size up your situation, size up the nature of your community, Figure ways in which you can reach out and do the work like Elijah did, unless someone else has already done it and then you need to carry on from that. Both works are needed. Size up the situation and see which

4