



The Test of Transitions • Part 2

Lesson 26 • 2Kings 2

Two Facts About Elijah's Translation

It Was a Time of TENSION for God's People, Because It Was a Time of TRANSITION for God's People.

"Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" 2Kings 2:14

Three Truths About Times of Transition

TRUTH #1 Transitions Always Test Our LOYALTY to the LORD

TRUTH #2 Transitions Are Times of TESTING for God's people.

Four Responses in Times of Transition

1. We Can Be **DISTANT OBSERVERS** Like the Sons of the Prophets. (3-18)
2. We Can Be **SELFISH CONSUMERS** Like the Citizens of Jericho. (19-22)
3. We Can Be **HARDENED SCOFFERS** Like the Young Men of Bethel. (23-24)
4. We Can Be **LOYAL FOLLOWERS** Like Elisha the Prophet.

➤ **TRUSTING** that the LORD is still on His throne even in times of transition. (9, 12-15)

➤ **REMAINING** loyal to the LORD no matter what and at any cost.

- 1) **Stay focused** on following the LORD and not forsaking His Word. (2-12)

Jesus Christ Is the GREATER PROPHET Who Says to Us:

"Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Me!"

- 2) **Desire a double portion** of God's powerful presence in your life more than anything else. (9-10)

Jesus Christ Is the GREATER KING Who Says to Us:

"In Me the Father has blessed you with every spiritual blessing! I am the firstborn among many brethren! You are co-heirs with Me and more than conquers in Me!"

- 3) **Keep God and His blessings** in proper perspective. (11-12)

- Elisha **honors** Elijah's character: *Who he was and what he meant to Israel in God's redemptive plan.* (12)
- Elisha **laments** Elijah's departure: *Knowing what it means for the coming judgment on both Israel and Judah.* (12)
- Elisha **continues** Elijah's ministry: *Picks up the mantle and re-enters the Land to have an even greater ministry.* (14)
- Elisha **remains loyal** to Elijah's God: *More than anything else Elisha wants the God of Elijah more than Elijah himself.* (14, 25)

"Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?"

Jesus Christ Is the GREATER PRIEST Who Says to Us:

"I am the LORD! I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life! No one comes to the Father except through Me! When you have Me, you have all you will ever need or want!"

3. Transitions Are a Reminder for God's People that God Is Still on His THRONE.

"Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?"

Four Reasons to Remain Loyal in Times of Transition

1. The LORD's **power** can still REACH us. (7-15)
2. The LORD's **word** can still GUIDE us. (15-18)
3. The LORD's **grace** can still SAVE/BLESS us. (19-22)

Deuteronomy 28:1-4, 15-18, 23-24

4. The LORD's **wrath** should still SCARE us. (23-25)

1) What is the AGE of "the little children" (KJV)?

2) How MANY of these young men are there?

3) Where are they coming FROM?

4) What was their PURPOSE?

5) What were they SAYING?

"GO UP!" means what?

"YOU BALD HEAD" means what?

- 6) What is the CONTEXT of the story?

"If then, you act with hostility against Me and are unwilling to obey Me, I will increase the plague on you seven times according to your sins. I will let loose among you the beasts of the field, which will bereave you of your children and destroy your cattle and reduce your number so that your roads lie deserted. Leviticus 26:21-22

Loyalty to the LORD Brings Covenantal Blessing and Disloyalty to the LORD Brings Covenantal Cursing!

You have His Word on it!

Transitions Test Whether We Trust the Lord Is Still on His Throne!

In times of transition, the Lord remains loyal to His covenant promises and so should we!

"Seek the LORD that you may live, or He will break forth like a fire, O house of Joseph, and it will consume with none to quench it..." Amos 5:6
"Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:6-7