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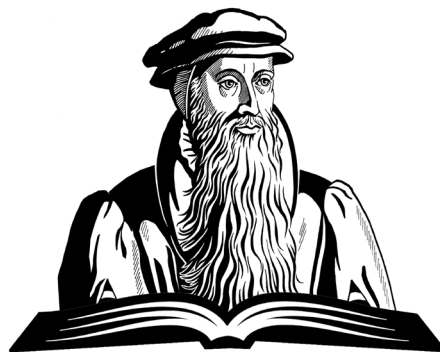
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 73:

Elisha Begins His Work

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Mr. Daniel Van Brugge is a teacher at Timothy Christian School in Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada.

www.timothychristian.ca

Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

77 LESSONS

(Additional lessons forthcoming)

Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

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| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
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| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
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52. Samuel Judges Israel
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54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
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62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
- 73. Elisha Begins his Work**
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah

Lesson 73

Elisha Begins His Work

The Second Book of the Kings, chapters 1 thru 5,
and the Second Book of Chronicles, chapter 20

Memory Verse

“Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.”

2 Kings 2:9b

Historical Summary

When Ahab died, his son Ahaziah reigned in his stead. Like his parents, he was a wicked man who did not serve the true God. One of his first acts as king was to seek revenge on the Moabites who refused to pay tribute to Israel as they did when Ahab was living. But Ahaziah was prevented from going to war by an accident in which he received some severe injuries. Anxious to know whether he would recover from his injuries, he sent his servants to inquire of the god of the Ekronites for him. But on their way, they met Elijah who told them that Ahaziah would die. In-



stead of submitting, Ahaziah became angry and sent a captain with 50 soldiers to arrest Elijah. But fire came down from heaven to consume them. Another captain with 50 was sent, and the same thing happened to them. A third group was sent, but they trembled before Elijah and asked for mercy. Elijah therefore went with them to Ahaziah, and told him face to face that he would die. A few days later Ahaziah died.

When the time came for Elijah to leave this earth, Elisha followed him from place to place—he did not want him to leave. He followed his master first to Bethel, then to Jericho, and finally to the Jordan River. Fifty sons of the prophets watched as Elijah struck the waters of Jordan with his mantle (his cape), and the waters parted. So Elijah and Elisha walked over on dry land, and Elijah said to him, “Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee.” Elisha asked for a double portion of Elijah’s spirit. As they walked, a chariot of fire with horses of fire appeared and separated them, and Elisha watched as Elijah was taken up into heaven by a whirlwind. He cried out, tore his clothes, and

picked up Elijah's mantle from the ground. He went back to the Jordan and struck the waters with the mantle, and the waters parted, so he crossed back over. When he returned to Bethel, a group of little children mocked him. Elisha cursed them, and the Lord sent two bears from the woods who tore them to death. It became clear to all that God was with Elisha, and he did many great works.

When Ahaziah died, his brother Joram reigned in his stead. One of his first efforts was to try to regain control over the Moabites because they rebelled against Israel after Ahab died. He asked for help from Jehoshaphat king of Judah and from the king of Edom. Jehoshaphat prayed for help from the Lord. But as the three armies approached Moab, they ran out of water and did not know what to do. So they asked Elisha, and he said Israel would win. The Lord provided water and also a victory over their enemies.

The Lord was with Elisha and helped him in his important work. He gave a poor woman a miraculous supply of oil so she could buy food. He was provided a place to rest in the home of a Shunamite woman, and later, when her only son died, he raised him to life. He cured poisonous food so that a large gathering had enough to eat. All these events made it clear to all that the Lord was with Elisha, and that they should listen to his teaching. These events also provided opportunities for the people to learn spiritual lessons.

The Lord also used Elisha to heal Naaman, a Syrian captain who had leprosy. A young Hebrew slave girl told him there was a prophet in Israel who could cure him, so he went to find Elisha. Elisha told him to go and wash in the Jordan river seven times. At first, Naaman scoffed at this instruction, but his servants encouraged him to try. Sure enough, when he followed Elisha's directions, he was cured. That's when Naaman the Syrian came to believe that the God of the Israelites was the one true God.

The Gospel in the Old Testament

Leprosy in Old Testament Israel was an awful disease, which meant a slow, agonizing, and painful death. It required a miracle to be healed of leprosy. So this disease also had some important lessons in it. We are all infected with sin, which leads to death. But the Lord Jesus Christ has provided a miraculous way to be set free from sin. He alone can provide forgiveness and deliverance from the bondage of sin. He can give you a new heart and a new nature which makes us fight against sin and seek holiness and righteousness. The wages of sin is death, but the penalty has been paid on Calvary's cross and a way opened for poor and needy sinners to be saved. This is what the Israelites needed in Old Testament times, and this is what we all need today. Have you come to the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness and deliverance yet?

Questions

1. What prevented Ahaziah from going to war with the Edomites?
 - a. He feared the might and power of their large armies.
 - b. His son was sick and he could not leave him while at war.
 - c. He could not get help from his allies for this war.
 - d. He was laid up on his bed with a severe injury.

2. When Ahaziah died, who reigned in his stead?
 - a. Abijah, his son.
 - b. Jehoram, his brother.
 - c. Elam, an Ekronite by birth.
 - d. There was no king for many years.
3. From what location did Elijah ascend up into heaven in a whirlwind?
 - a. Bethel
 - b. Jerusalem
 - c. Near Egypt.
 - d. On the east side of Jordan.
4. The king of Israel asked help from the kings of what two countries to battle against the Moabites?
 - a. Israel and Syria
 - b. Judah and Edom
 - c. Israel and Egypt
 - d. Egypt and Syria
5. Which of the following events did Elisha NOT do after Elijah ascended into heaven?
 - a. Produce a miraculous supply of oil.
 - b. Call fire down from heaven.
 - c. Raise a dead boy to life again.
 - d. Cure a poisonous pot of soup.
6. What did Elisha tell Naaman to do to be cured of his leprosy.
 - a. Take a mixture of several herbs and spices.
 - b. Wash his garments thoroughly in the river Nile.
 - c. Seek for a medicine doctor named Gehazi.
 - d. Wash in the Jordan river seven times.
7. What was Gehazi's punishment for coveting the gift that Naaman offered to Elisha?
 - a. He was killed by a lion.
 - b. He was wounded by Joram.
 - c. His home was burned with fire.
 - d. He became leprous.

Essay Questions

1. List several judgments of the Lord that made it clear to Ahaziah that his life was wrong and that he needed to repent of his ways.

2. What were some ways that everyone could see that God was with Elisha as he was with Elijah?

3. Explain how Jehoshaphat was a type of the Lord Jesus when he helped Jehoram in his battle with the Moabites.

4. What spiritual lessons can we learn from these miracles performed by Elisha?

The supply of oil: _____

Raising a dead boy to life: _____

Curing the poison from the soup: _____

5. Prove that Naaman's cure showed him who the true God was.
