### 2 Kings

## Chapter 2

1Then Jehovah planned to take EliJah into the sky in a great shaking. And at the time, EliJah and EliSha had just left GilGal together.  
  
2So EliJah said to EliSha:  
  
 ‘Wait here, because Jehovah is sending me on to BethEl.’  
  
But EliSha asked:  
  
 ‘As Jehovah lives and as you live, should I just I abandon you?!’  
  
So they traveled on to BethEl together. 3[And when they got to] BethEl, the Sons of the prophets came to EliSha and said to him:  
  
 ‘Did you know that Jehovah is going to take your master and lift him over your head today?’  
  
And he replied:  
  
 ‘Yes, I know… But let’s not talk about it!’  
  
6Then EliJah told him:  
  
 ‘Now, you should just wait here, for Jehovah is sending me to the JorDan River.’  
  
And EliSha [again] said:  
  
 ‘As Jehovah lives and as you live, am I to abandon you?!’  
  
So they both traveled on.  
  
7Well, 50 of the Sons of the prophets were standing some distance away next to the JorDan, as both men walked up to the river... 8Then EliJah took off his sheepskin cape, folded it in half, and he struck the water with it, and [the river] parted before them… So they both crossed it on dry land!  
  
9And as they were crossing, EliJah said to EliSha:  
  
 ‘Tell me what I can do for you before I’m taken away from you.’  
  
So EliSha told him:  
  
 ‘Please bestow a double portion of your Spirit upon me.’  
  
10And EliJah told him:  
  
 ‘That’s a difficult request...  
  
 ‘If you see me being taken up from you, you’ll receive it. But if you don’t, it won’t happen.’  
  
  
11Then, as they were crossing the river walking along and talking, {Look!} a chariot of fire with horses of fire rode up between them, and carried EliJah into the sky with a great shaking.  
  
12And when EliSha saw this, he yelled out:  
  
 ‘O father, O father,  
  
 ‘The chariot of IsraEl and his horseman!’  
  
But, EliJah quickly passed out of sight.  
  
Then [EliSha] ripped his own clothes in half, 13and he picked up EliJah’s sheepskin cape that had fallen on top of him, and he raised it high as he walked back to the bank of the river... 14And after that, he took EliJah’s sheepskin cape that had fallen upon him and struck the water with it… But it didn’t part.  
  
So he cried out:  
  
 ‘Where is the God of EliJah now?’  
  
Then he struck the water again, and this time [the river] ripped apart on either side of him! So thereafter, EliSha was able to finish crossing the river.  
  
  
15Well, when the Sons of the prophets who’d come from JeriCho saw him standing on their side of the river, they said:  
  
 ‘Surely the Breath of EliJah now rests upon EliSha!’  
  
So they came to greet him, bowing to the ground before him.  
  
16Then they said to him:  
  
 ‘{Look!} We have 50 men [who are filled with God’s] power.  
  
 ‘Allow us to send them to search for your master; for the Breath of Jehovah may have tossed him into the JorDan or onto one of the mountains or hills!’  
  
And EliSha said:  
  
 ‘No, don’t send them.’  
  
17But they kept insisting until he [became exasperated] and said:  
  
 ‘Okay, then send them!’  
  
Therefore, they sent the 50 men who searched for him for three days, but they couldn’t find him.  
  
18And when they returned to where EliSha was staying in JeriCho, he said to them:  
  
 ‘Didn’t I tell you not to go?’  
  
  
19Well meanwhile, the men of [JeriCho] had come to EliSha and said:  
  
 ‘{Look!} As you can see, O master, this city is in a good location.  
  
 ‘However, the water is bad and nothing wants to grow here.’  
  
20And EliSha said:  
  
 ‘Bring me a new water jar filled with salt.’  
  
So they went and brought [the jar of salt] to him... 21And EliSha went to the place where they got their water and threw the salt into it, and said:  
  
 ‘This is what Jehovah has proclaimed:  
  
 ‘I’ve made the water good, so it will no longer cause death or destruction.’  
  
22And the water there has in fact remained good to this day, just as EliSha said.  
  
  
23Well after that, EliSha left [JeriCho] and traveled back towards BethEl. But on the way, some young boys who were following him from the city started making fun of him by shouting:  
  
 ‘Go into the sky O bald man… Go up into the sky!’  
  
24And when he saw this, he turned around and cursed them in the name of the Lord. Then {Look!} two bears came out of the woods and tore all 42 of the children to pieces!  
  
  
25Well thereafter, he traveled on to Mount CarMel, and then on to Samaria.