Elijah's Departure 2 Kings 2:1-18 May 3, 2020

The Prophesies

The Bible Gateway Encyclopedia says:

This Heb. term occurs eleven times, all during the period of Elijah and especially Elisha, and only in the books of 1 and 2 Kings. The term is a technical one referring to the members of a prophetic order or guild, and has no reference to physical descent from a prophet.¹

The Miracle

The Request

¹ <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Sons-Prophets</u>

The Chariot of Fire

Home Study Guide

Monday: Read 2 Kings 2: 1-18 What is important about this transition?

Tuesday: Matt 17 what is the connection between John the Baptist and Elijah?

Wednesday: Joshua 3 Compare this crossing of the Jordan to the one in last Sunday's text.

Sunday's Sermon will be "Water and Bears" 2 Kings 2:19-25

Thursday: Leviticus 2 What is the significance of salt here?

Friday: Luke 14 Same question as yesterday.

Saturday: 1 Sam 17 How are bears dealt with differently here and in tomorrow's text?

Prayer Items:

Family Catechism Study

[Westminster Shorter Catechism]

Q. 86. What is faith in Jesus Christ?

A. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace^{*a*}, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel^{*b*}.

[a]. Eph. 2:8-9; cf. Rom. 4:16 [b]. John 20:30-31; Gal. 2:15-16; Phil. 3:3-11

Faith is a saving **grace**!!!! Many will teach that believing is your contribution to the salvation process - now it is true that you do the believing; but it is God who gives you the faith with which to believe. To construe it, as some do, faith would then become the one acceptable work to God and we save ourselves by believing. Faith is a saving grace, a gift of God, without which we could never be saved.

Faith in order to be saving faith also has a very particular object - Jesus Christ. Faith for faith's sake is not a saving virtue. It does not matter how hard you believe, if your faith is not in Jesus you are lost and will continue to be until you believe in Jesus. In the kids movie "Toy Story" Buzz never did become a real space ranger just because he believed it so intensely. The only object of faith powerful enough to turn you from guilty sinner to Son of God is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Believing in Jesus must be according to the Gospel. You cannot make up your own Jesus or try to diminish what the Bible reveals him to be. Believe in him as he is offered in the Gospel. Rest on him completely and the work which he finished for you!!

There are three aspects of saving faith. There is a body of truth that must be **known**. Secondly, that same body of information must be **embraced** as real and true. Then that truth must be **trusted** or rested in. Saving faith means that <u>all</u> your eggs are in Jesus' basket!