

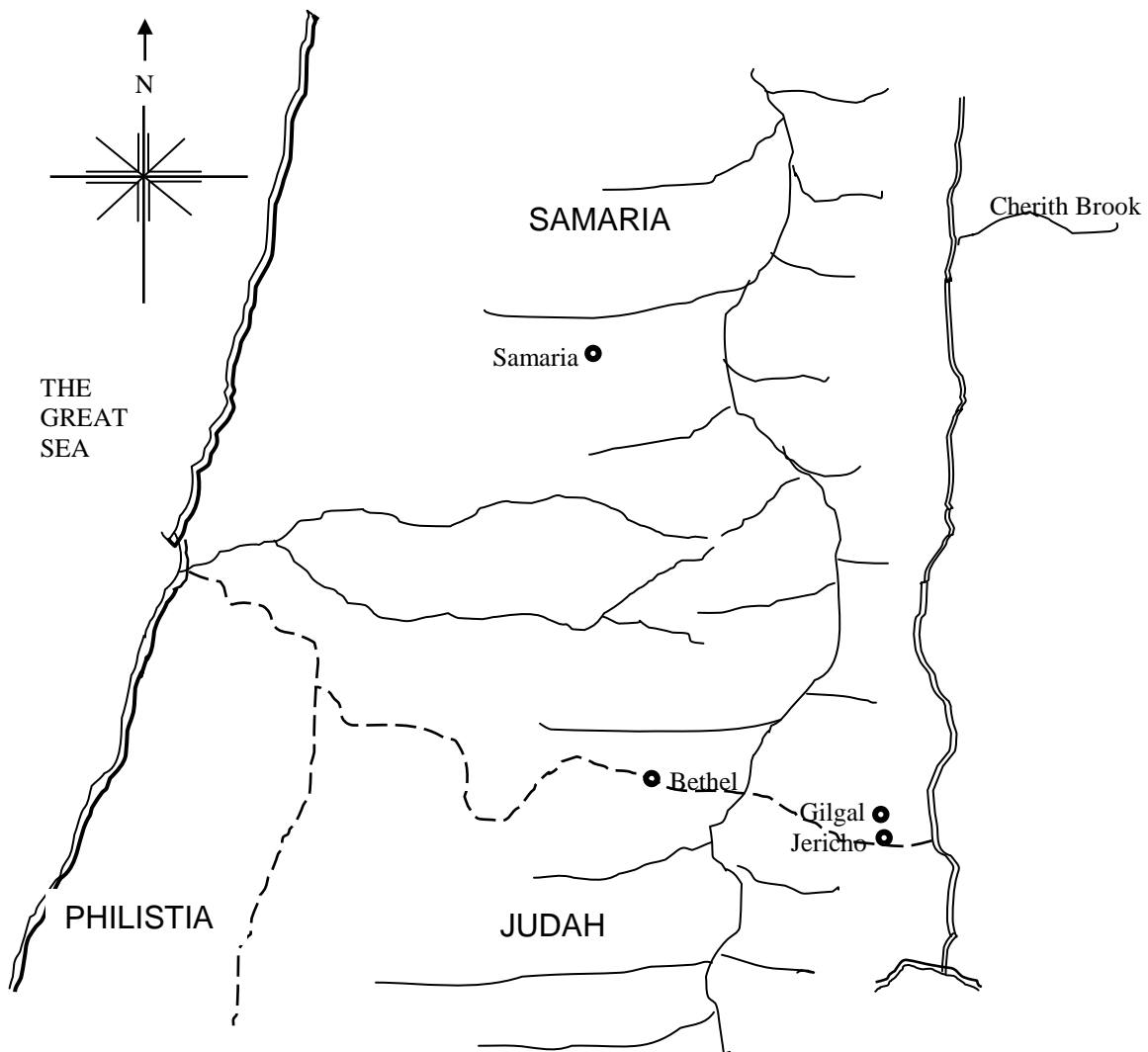
Elijah and Elisha

#12, a whirlwind to heaven – II Kings 2:1-14

Heb 11:5, By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God.

I Thess 4:17, Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

The above references are two of the three instances in scripture where a person or persons, who pleased God, were taken to heaven without seeing death. This lesson is the third instance.



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1 And it came about when the Lord was about to take up Elijah by a whirlwind to heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

2 Elijah said to Elisha, " Stay here please, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, " As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

3 Then the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; be still."

4 Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, " As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho.

5 The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, " Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from over you today?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be still."

[1.] v:1-2, Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. Locate Gilgal and Bethel on your map (page 1) and draw a line between the two towns.

[2.] v:1-2 again, What did Elijah request of Elisha?

[3.] question [2.], What was Elisha's response?

[4.] v:3, the sons of the prophets What was the question that these asked Elisha?

[5.] question [4.] What was Elisha's response?

[6.] v:4, Elijah said, Draw their route on your map. Write down Elijah's instruction and Elisha's response.

[7.] v:5, at Jericho, What did these prophets also know?

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6 Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." And he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on.

7 Now fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood opposite them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan.

8 Elijah took his mantle and folded it together and struck the waters, and they were divided here and there, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

[8.] v:6, Please stay here, From the list below, select a possible reason for this repetition.

- a) Elijah loves to walk.
- b) Elijah tried to loose Elisha.
- c) Elisha proved he would faithfully follow Elijah.

[9.] v:7, stood opposite, What did these fellows want to witness?

[10.] v:8, took his mantle What happened when Elijah struck the water?

[11.] v:8 again, the two of them crossed, Who saw Elijah do this act?

Parting bodies of Water

[12.] Exodus 14:21, In order to part the Red Sea, what did Moses do?

[13.] Joshua 3:14-17, In order to part the Jordan River, what did Priests do?

[14.] II Kings 2:8, In order to part the Jordan River, what did Elijah do?

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9 When they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."

10 He said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."

11 As they were going along and talking, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven. 12 Elisha saw it and cried out, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw Elijah no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. 13 He also took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and returned and stood by the bank of the Jordan. 14 He took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and struck the waters and said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the waters, they were divided here and there; and Elisha crossed over.

[15.] v:9, before I am taken, So far, how many seemed to know of Elijah's departure.

[16.] Something to think about! At this point, how would Elisha know to whom, other than himself, the Lord was speaking?

[17.] v:9 again, Please, What was Elisha's request?

[18.] Question [17.] What was Elijah's reply?

[19.] v:11-12, behold, there appeared, What did Elisha see?

[20.] v:11-12 again, Elisha saw, According to the word of a true prophet, what did Elisha receive?

[21.] v:13-14, Elisha crossed over, When the sons of the prophets saw this, what should they have understood?

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Swing low, sweet chariot, Comin' for to carry me home;
Swing low, sweet chariot, Comin' for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, And what did I see, Comin' for to carry me home?
A band of angels comin' after me, Comin' for to carry me home.

Written by Wallis Willis

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