

“We’re Still Covered”
Bible Stories Sermon Series, Pt. 23 – 2 Kings 2:1-25
March 31, 2019

I. 2 Kings 2:1-25: Features and Details

A. The various scenes are held together by two threads:

1. The repeated mention of 3 locations: the Jordan, Jericho, and Bethel.
2. The repeated references to an uncovered head, particularly Elisha’s.

B. Key Cities

1. Bethel was the center of Israel’s golden calf cult.
2. Jericho, though cursed, had been rebuilt.

Joshua 6:26 - Then Joshua made them take an oath at that time, saying, “Cursed before the Lord is the man who rises up and builds this city Jericho; with the loss of his firstborn he shall lay its foundation, and with the loss of his youngest son he shall set up its gates.”

1 Kings 16:34 - In his [Ahab’s] days, Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho; he laid its foundations with the loss of Abiram his firstborn, and set up its gates with the loss of his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the Lord, which He spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

- C. The Sons of the Prophets’ actual question to Elisha: “Did you know that your master will be taken from over your *head* today?”
- D. Though Elijah leaves, Elisha re-parts and re-crosses the Jordan as God’s new empowered representative.
1. Jericho is then healed.
 2. Bethel is then judged.
 - a. The “young lads” were not children, but young men.
 - b. Their taunt of Elisha’s “baldness” had to do with his head-cover of Elijah being taken away.

II. Two lines of Modern Application

- A. The Lord is still here and still working when our Christian heroes leave this world.
- B. The Church is the new Elisha – empowered not with Elijah’s spirit, but with the Holy Spirit.