

THE REDEEM CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

CHRIST THE LORD PARISH, LEKKI 1, LAGOS

DIGGING DEEP

THEME: ELISHA, HIS LIFE AND MINISTRY (PART 3)
2023

TUESDAY, June 20,

TOPIC: THE WELL-FURNISHED CHRISTIAN LIFE
INTRODUCTION

TEXT: 2 KINGS 4:18-37

In continuation of our study on the life & Ministry of Prophet Elisha, last week we learnt how God used Prophet Elisha by the help of the Holy Spirit to bring about miracles in his fifty years of Ministry in Israel. Which impacted on the lives of people.

OUTLINE 1

A PROPHET'S FURNITURE

Some lives are badly and sparsely furnished, just as some houses are, but God's plan is that we should be "furnished throughout

- 2 Timothy 3:17. There are four essential pieces of furniture that we all need – a bed, a table, a stool and a candlestick. These were all necessary for the prophet's comfort, and unless we possess what these articles typify we cannot possibly be well-furnished, successful workers for the Lord.

ESSENTIAL FOR A WELL-FURNISHED LIFE

- **Bed the symbol of rest.** Matt 11:28-29

. *Rest from the heavy burden of sin.* Colossians 1:20, (Isaiah 57:20)?

. *Rest from a condemning conscience.* Acts 24:16, 1 John 3:22.

. *Rest amid the unrest of the world.* Psalm 119:165; Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:6-7, Mark 6:50.

- **Table, Symbol of Communion.** Daniel 11:32

How often do we fellowship with God, what our God love most is not our service but ourselves. Rev 3:20, Gen 3:5.

- **Stool, Symbol of instruction.** Deut 33:3

We can never become the men and women God would have us be unless we know what it means to regularly sit at His feet and receive His instruction Deuteronomy 33:3 and Luke 10:39.

We must be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Matt:28-30, Ps 1:2, 2 Timothy 2:15

- **Candlestick, Symbol of testimony.**

This speaks about the life that shines. John 8:12 We are the light of the world, Matt 5:14-16. Submission is the key, once we submit to Him, He will make us light shining in the dark places. John 1:5.

In conclusion, notice that these four essentials for a well-furnished life all have to do with our relationship with the Lord Himself.

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1. REST is found IN Christ.

- . 2. COMMUNION is enjoyed WITH Christ.
- . 3. INSTRUCTION is received FROM Christ.
- . 4. TESTIMONY is given FOR Christ.

2 Timothy 3:14-17.

OUTLINE 2

RAISING OF THE SHUNAMMITE'S SON.

- How well do you know your child/children?
- Is your child spiritually alive or dead? Psalm 51:5

PARENTS PRIORITY

What should be your first concern for our children? Physical welfare, Education, Career or their spiritual status.

We have a great task to lead/train our children in the way of the Lord.

FAILURE OF THE SERVANT

Vs 29-31

- Getting used to God's word, Miracle, can be dangerous
- He was out of touch (No Prayers/ preparation whatsoever)

VICTORY AT LAST

- Prophet Elisha began on His knees. Matt6:6
- There was personal contact. Vs 34
- There was intense desire and effort
- **There was patience and perseverance**

In conclusion, we should take note of the three signs of life.

1. In verse 34 there is the sign of *warmth*, and if there is warmth there must be life.
2. In verse 35 there is the sign of *sneezing*, and this surely indicates more life still.
3. In verse 35 there is the sign of *vision*, for we are told that the child "opened his eyes"