



Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

Volume 2, Issue 29

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

Today's Word: mantle

August 6, 2006

Lesson 29: "They Took Up . . . the Mantle of Elijah"

Are You:

- Heeding The Prophet's Counsel?
- Reading Your Scriptures Every Day?
- Saying Your Prayers Diligently?

Today's Scriptures

2 Kings 2

2 Kings 5-6

Lesson 30:

"Come to the House of the Lord"

2 Chronicles 29-30

2 Chronicles 32

2 Chronicles 34

W.W. Austin, Gospel Doctrine Teacher
wendywarrenaustin@hotmail.com
<http://ideawarehouse.blogspot.com>

Today's Lesson

- Elisha succeeds Elijah as the prophet
- Elisha heals Naaman of leprosy
- Elisha guides Israel in a war with Syria
- Elisha's miracles

Mantle—A piece of clothing, similar to a robe, but which usually just goes around the neck and over the shoulders. When worn by religious leaders, serves as a symbol of authority.



Transferring the Mantle

"When a newly called leader comes into our lives, we need to recognize that no two leaders or their ministries are the same. Yet they have one thing in common: they are expected to bring all that they are and have to the altar of God and offer it for the benefit and blessing of those over whom they preside." (Bruce L. Andreason, "The Mantle of Elijah," *Ensign*, Aug. 2002, 24.)

Elder Rex D. Pinegar:

"Are we not sometimes like Naaman, looking for big or important things to do and by passing simple things which could change our lives and heal us of our afflictions?" (*Ensign*, Nov. 1994, 80)

Elder Dallin H. Oaks:

"When I read this wonderful story [about Elisha guiding Israel in a war with Syria], I always identified with the young servant of Elisha. I thought, If I am ever surrounded by the forces of evil while I am in the Lord's service, I hope the Lord will open my eyes and give me faith to understand that when we are in the work of the Lord, those who are with us are always more powerful than those who oppose us" (*Ensign*, Nov. 1992, 39)

Questions to Ponder

- Why do we sometimes wait for prophets to repeat counsel before we follow it?
- What can the story of Naaman teach us about following the counsel of the prophet—even when we may not like or understand it or when it may be about small or simple matters?

Moses and Elijah

D&C 110 tells us that Jesus, Moses and Elijah (along with the mysterious Elias) appeared to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery at the Kirtland Temple. John A. Tvedtnes, writing for *Meridian Magazine* makes some interesting parallels between Moses and Elijah/Elisha. Check out his article "Moses and Elijah" at http://www.meridianmagazine.com/ancients/050509moses.html#_edn1