



“The Year of the Mantle” part 2

Sunday January 11, 2026

I. ***II Kings 2:6-15***

A. The Mantle – That most important thing that is overlooked: ***Relationship***

1. When Elijah passed by Elisha in the field and threw his mantle upon him, He was passing more upon Elisha than just a rough outer garment; This garment represented the identity, the power, the anointing and life of God!
2. Listen, Listen... When you seek Him, you will find Him. God wants you to ask and to keep on asking (even for the hard things), but we have hindered our hearts on 2 levels: we only ask for things here or there simply because we do not believe, and we have wavered because we judge ourselves unworthy and refuse to stand fast and say, “I will not leave!”
3. This is Relationship – “I will not leave you!” – Committed, Faithful, and True.
 - We live in an excuse-ridden society; I can’t, I don’t have an education, I didn’t grow up with loving parents....I couldn’t come to church this morning – I didn’t feel good, I had car issues, I had plumbing issues....
 - There will always be more reasons why you can’t in this life – “There are giants in the land...”, but only one reason why you can – ***“I can do all things THROUGH Christ who strengthens me!”*** (Let us go up at once, we are well able to possess the land....why? Because in Him I live and move and have my being!)

B. The Mantle – The Responsibility

1. Think about what Elisha said, “*I will not leave you.*” – We have had an unfair and one-sided expectation concerning the relationship with God among Christians and all of you know that it is true: We expect God to be the crutch, the answer in time of need....but if something doesn’t go the way Christians want it to go, they leave God and blame Him for not coming through!
2. Jesus said, “*I will never leave you....*” If we understood the value of those words that both Elisha and Jesus said, we would understand that picking up the mantle is about holding fast in a greater degree: ***Romans 8:38-39*** “*For I am PERSUADED...*” / *Jesus did it all on the cross....I will pick up that cross now and follow Him!*
3. Here is the thing about persuasion: When you pick up the full mantle of God, you will not waver, move, or doubt....You will not question God and His Word because you know that it is true; for it is in faithful relationship and persuasion that God will never let you down and will always bring you through! – ***Romans 4:19-21*** (“*Lord, 2026 is a new year, so this means it is a new me; old things are passed away and all things become new. You said*”

that You would never leave me, now I understand this truth. I pick up the mantle and I will stand true. Lord Jesus, I will not doubt, I will not waver....I will never leave or forsake you!")

II. Ask – Change the way you think

A. *"You have asked a hard thing...."* – the double portion (Greater, Bigger, More).

1. There is no question that God wants to bless you beyond measure...exceeding abundantly above...it is proven through Jabez, Solomon, and the words that Jesus spoke in **Matthew 7:11**.
2. However, Receiving More Means Doing More! (Elisha asked for a double portion for God's glory not His own...Jabez and Solomon just the same.)
 - Elijah went up, His mantle came down / Jesus went up, the Holy Spirit came down. (You shall receive power AFTER....).
 - Elisha requested the double portion....The Church should expect it!
 - Christianity is more than just finding your mansion in heaven. There is a dedication required, an expectation from the Heavenly calling....to find the narrow path, yes...but to lead by example, to be a voice like John the Baptist, crying in the wilderness, preparing the way of the Lord.
 - The last time Jesus said something difficult (hard saying) for the mind to receive, everyone left him except the 12 (**John 6:60-61**). Where do you stand in the kingdom today?

B. **John 14:12-14**

1. The Double Portion is the same as the "Greater Works" – Elijah had 8 notable miracles and Elisha had 16. What happened when Jesus went to the Father?
2. Pay Attention: This is something so uncommon among Christians. We believe that God answers in "His Timing" or "According to His Will Being Done" or "Everything has a purpose and reason why requests aren't answered." – This doesn't line up with God's Written Word.
3. In 2026, we need to establish in our hearts....**His Word Has Decreed It, My Faith Has Received It!**
4. **Mark 16:17-18** *"These signs shall follow THEM THAT BELIEVE..."* / No more blame, no more shame; pick up the mantle with faith, knowing that your heart is fully persuaded....God is not a man that He should lie. Do you believe? Do you believe?