

"SPIRITUAL PURSUIT"

2 Kings 2:1-9

A mark of men used by God is their passion to pursue God/His will for their lives.

I. PASSIONLESS MEN

A. Mistakes are made concerning destiny

1. Destiny will just happen: *God called me – so it will work out on it's own*
2. Attendance is enough: *Put in some time (seniority) attend a few classes – you're in!*
3. But some men lack passion about calling/the things of God
 - a. It is not something burning within – driving them towards calling/the things of God
 1. It's just one possible thing they could do in life
 2. There are other things that distract their attention/energies
 - a. *Colossians 4:17* And say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."
4. So calling/destiny/anointing are not pursued – they're hoping it will overtake them

B. This kind of man rarely enters destiny – and usually struggles to influence people

1. People aren't attracted to a mediocre man/a passionless man
2. God doesn't bless their life with anointing: A supernatural dimension that makes them effective
 - a. Truth: You have no right to anything you have not pursued!

II. SPIRITUAL PURSUIT

A. Elisha is a picture of a man motivated by passion

1. *Passion: Something arousing enthusiasm; intense, driving, or overmastering feeling or conviction; A vision for what can be*
 - a. *Desire that manifests in action*
2. Elisha decided that calling/a supernatural dimension was something to be pursued
 - a. *The Proof Of Desire Is Pursuit: Chasing after something with intensity and action*

B. Look at what Elisha pursued

1. **Calling:** Elisha had been called by God – the mantle dropped on him; God has a purpose for you
 - a. He wanted that calling more than anything else
2. **His Pastor's Spirit:** He didn't just want what the Pastor could give him – he wanted what he was
 - a. *2 Kings 2:9* And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."
 1. I want to think like he thinks
 2. I want to approach life like he approaches it: *Jordan river*
3. **A supernatural dimension:** *v9* Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."
 - a. He understood this supernatural dimension would enable him to carry out the task he was called to

C. Look at what pursuit looks like

1. **It involves a firm decision:** *V2 as the Lord lives...I will not leave you!*
 - a. *Not something I'm trying/thinking about – I will have it!*
2. **It involves filtering:** There are voices he would not listen to *V3 yes, I know – not be quiet!*
3. **It involves actions:** Elisha put forth extra effort to obtain this dimension
 - a. Long tiring walks: *Gilgal: Consecration Bethel: Obedience Jericho: Financial surrender*
 1. *Passion is when you put more energy into something than is required to do it. It is more than just enthusiasm or excitement, passion is ambition that is materialized into action to put as much heart, mind body and soul into something as is possible.*

D. The great questions for disciples

1. What does God want for you?
2. What do you want?
3. What is it worth to you?
 - a. What are you doing to pursue what God wants/what you want?

III. WHEN THE MANTLE FALLS

A. God honors spiritual passion/spiritual pursuit: Jeremiah – you'll find me when you seek with all your heart

1. 2 Kings 2:13-15 He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴ Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over. ¹⁵ Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.

- a. A dimension of wisdom: He knew what to do
- b. A dimension of power: The waters parted
- c. A dimension of favor: *V15* Other people recognized God was with him – and they listened to him!