

## The Daily Double

The NBC game show, Jeopardy, has been entertaining viewers for nearly five decades. Hidden among the categories of clues on the playing board is the infamous “Daily Double,” where players can wager any or all of their earnings for the chance to double their winnings. In the Scriptures, the prophet Elisha seized the opportunity to go for the “daily double” on a different playing field. We’ll see how he fared in today’s Templates of Truth.

The senior prophet, Elijah, was about to be taken from earth to heaven in a supernatural transformation that serves as an Old Testament example for a future event we call the Rapture – when all believers will disappear from earth and be taken up into heaven with Christ. Just before Elijah experienced this miracle, he asked his junior associate if there was anything he could do for him. Elisha responded, *Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me* (II Kings 2:9). It wasn’t a game show Elisha was playing, nor was he going for big money, a new car or a luxury vacation. The junior prophet wanted a double portion of the same divine power to be demonstrated in his life that had been made manifest in Elijah’s life.

Once Elijah was gone, Elisha took his mantle and stood on the bank of the Jordan River with the intent to strike the waters as Elijah had previously done in order to part them and cross over on dry land. As he raised his mantle, he posed the question – *Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?* (2:14). Elisha wasn’t concerned that God had somehow disappeared when Elijah did. His question could be better translated as, “Is the power of God with me as it was with Elijah, and will God demonstrate His power in my life as He did in Elijah’s life?” The answer was made very evident in the action that followed – *And when he also struck the waters, they were divided here and there; and Elisha crossed over* (2:14). God had indeed endowed this young prophet with the same supernatural, divine power to continue the work of ministry both men had faithfully served.

Is this a concern in your life? Can you look at the experiences of your life since becoming a Christian and honestly see the supernatural power of God being demonstrated in various encounters & circumstances along the way? How much do you truly desire for the power of God to be made manifest in your life? The older I get, the more I find myself praying for that very thing. I’ve wasted enough years allowing the power of my fleshly nature to be made manifest! Time is short. The days of my life are lessening. The Rapture of the church could literally happen at any moment now. In these last days, I want to be found faithfully & effectively carrying out the work God called and gifted me to do. Is that the desire and intent of your heart?

Elisha’s request for the double portion reminds me of the words of Jesus – *Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to the Father* (John 14:12). After He ascended to the Father, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to abide with us. He said, *you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you* (Acts 1:8). The power of Elijah & Elisha is already inherent in each of us who have

trusted Christ as our Lord & Savior. We already possess the divine power of God through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. All we have to do is surrender our lives to the control of His Spirit, and allow God to demonstrate that power through our obedience to His will, plan and purpose each day. When we do so, what God is able to accomplish in us and through us is compounded daily through the power of Christ. We can accomplish double, triple, even hundreds of times over that which Jesus began and continues to do through His church.

The daily double of which we speak is not a bonus round on a game show. It is a multiplied manifestation of the power of God being demonstrated daily in our life. Is that reality the testimony of your life today? If not, ask God for it, raise your mantle and strike the waters. God wants to demonstrate His miraculous grace through you today.

That's today's Templates of Truth. This is your Bible teacher, Rick Smith, reminding you to attend church this Sunday for Bible study and worship, pray for one another, and always strive to abide in Christ. Until next time, have a blessed and glorious day in the Lord Jesus.

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