

King of Apathy

II Kings 13:14-19 Now **Elisha was fallen sick** of his sickness whereof he died. And **Joash the king of Israel** came down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, O my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. 15 And Elisha said unto him, **Take bow and arrows**. And **he took unto him bow and arrows**. 16 And he said to the **king of Israel, Put thine hand** upon the bow. And he put his hand *upon it*: and **Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands**. 17 And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened *it*. Then **Elisha said, Shoot**. And he shot. And he said, **The arrow of the Lord's deliverance**, and the **arrow of deliverance from Syria**: for **thou shalt smite** the Syrians in Aphek, **till thou have consumed them**. 18 And he said, **Take the arrows**. And he took *them*. And he said unto the king of Israel, **Smite upon the ground. And he smote thrice, and stayed**. 19 And the **man of God was wroth** with him, and said, Thou shouldest have **smitten five or six times**; then hadst thou **smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it**: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria *but* thrice.

- Syria has conquered Israel and was oppressing them
- Elisha is about to die—got sick to die 13:14 Now **Elisha was fallen sick** of his sickness whereof he died. And **Joash the king of Israel** came down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, O my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof.
- Joash is king of Israel and comes to the man of God on his death bed
- He recognized that Elisha represents God, His power, His deliverance and weeps over him
- Elisha tells Joash to take bow and arrows
- Elisha places his hands on the hands of Joash
- He shoots the arrow out the window and gets a promise from God through Elisha
- Joash is instructed to take the arrows and strike the ground
- King Joash strikes the ground only 3 times

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September 3,, 2015 - Thursday

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- Elisha warns Joash that he has shown a half hearted, limited obedience—he was not excited, motivated to obey God—great apathy

I. God offers great opportunities

- a. Given a promise that he would smite his enemy until they were consumed 13:17
And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened *it*. Then **Elisha said, Shoot.** And he shot. And he said, **The arrow of the Lord's deliverance,** and the **arrow of deliverance from Syria:** for **thou shalt smite** the Syrians in Aphek, **till thou have consumed them.** Acts 5:28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.
- b. they had filled their city with the teaching of salvation and Jesus Christ
- c. God's power to overcome – the man of God's hands on his 13:16 And he said to the **king of Israel, Put thine hand** upon the bow. And he put his hand *upon it*: and **Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands.** We have a promise of his power Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
- d. The potential to have full victory 13:17 And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened *it*. Then **Elisha said, Shoot.** And he shot. And he said, **The arrow of the Lord's deliverance,** and the **arrow of deliverance from Syria:** for **thou shalt smite** the Syrians in Aphek, **till thou have consumed them.** of evangelizing the world
Acts 13:41 Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.
- e. The problems that wait with every opportunity

II. Opportunities require Obedience

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- a. The first step in obedience is to be available for God to tell you what to do
 - i. We are to obey step by step
 - ii. Obey in every little things
- b. Able
 - i. God is going to give Joash great and complete victory
 - ii. Joash feels foolish obeying God in such a small thing as shooting a bow and arrow and striking the ground
- c. Attitude
 - i. Obey without understanding
 - ii. Do not obey half heartedly

III. What are the main obstacles to get all that God has for us

- a. Being complacent or apathetic—apathy—don't care
- b. Being content—things are fine like they are
- c. Serving without conviction
 - i. Laid back or not motivated
 - ii. A lack of faith caused Jesus not to do many mighty works Matthew 13:58
And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.
- d. Not willing to pay the cost
 - i. No excitement
 - ii. No enthusiasm

IV. The outcome brought on by apathy

- a. Partial victory—Joash defeats Syria 3 times and never completely wins 13:25 And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again out of the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael the cities, which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times did Joash beat him, and recovered the cities of Israel.
- b. Pitiful churches not living up to their potential or seeing the power of God
- c. Pathetic Christian lives that never find their purpose in life

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- d. A perishing world—a lost and dying world and friends never hear the gospel message that could change their lives completely
- e. Blessings depend upon complete obedience and full faith
- f. Believe and act

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