

THE DOUBLE PORTION

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Techie M. Rodriguez
Elder-Founder



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

We are all chosen by God for a purpose. He chose us before the world began, *“that we would be holy and blameless, present before Him in His love...”* (Ephesians 1:4). How do we embrace God’s call? What is the proper way to respond to God when He is calling us to serve Him? Recognizing that God has a unique purpose and plan for each of us, let us surrender our life to His will and trust in His calling for us. He has chosen us and appointed us to go and abundantly bear fruit in the places He directs us to go (John 15:16).

1. *Elisha was God’s choice.*

Elisha was chosen and called by God. God knew that he was the man who would faithfully obey Elijah. Similarly, we did not choose God; He chose us and set us apart (Eph. 1:3-10).

2. *Elisha was anointed as successor of the prophet.*

God instructed Elijah to anoint Elisha to be the next prophet. To anoint means to authorize or set apart a person for a particular work or service. Elisha was anointed to preach, to proclaim, and to liberate the oppressed (1Kings 19:15-16). When we are anointed by God, we are set apart for the service of God. God only anoints those who He intends to use to bring about His purposes and plans.

2.1. Jesus Christ, just like David and Joshua and other individuals in the Old Testament, was anointed by God to do His will (Luke 4:18). As the Anointed One, Jesus fulfilled all the prophetic declarations (Isaiah 61:1).

2.2. The anointing is a MUST no matter the position. We need to be divinely empowered and should humbly cooperate with God’s Holy Spirit to be able to perform the tasks and fulfil our call (Acts 1:8). Without anointing, there will be no blessing, no growth, no success.

3. *Elijah obeyed the Lord and found Elisha.* He was a farmer and was plowing with 12 pairs of oxen (1 Kings 19:19).

4. *Elijah threw his cloak to Elisha* (1 Kings 19:19). As Elijah went over to Elisha, he threw his mantle (cloak) to Elisha. The cloak was a very important garment and used for many things. When he put it on Elisha’s shoulder, it signified the transfer of authority.

5. *Elisha’s obedience was immediate.*

As described in 1 Kings 19:20-21, Elisha without any doubt and struggle, committed right away to God’s call. Elisha even sacrificed a yoke of oxen and gave it to the people. His commitment was costly; He said goodbye for good to his parents and followed Elijah to become his attendant.

Conclusion:

Embracing a significant call always requires a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit. It empowers the Spirit-filled servant for multiple, powerful ministries/services. When we are summoned to serve, like Elisha, we ought to immediately heed the call and be willing to get consecrated to be God’s vessel or instrument even if that entails deep commitment and costly sacrifices.

Reflection:

1. How would you answer God’s call upon your life?
2. In your ministry, how do you ensure God’s anointing?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, only You have the power to anoint us with your Holy Spirit as you did with Your son, our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask that you pour Your fresh anointing upon us to completely and wholeheartedly embrace the work/ministry that you have called us to. In Jesus’ name, Amen!