

The Tale of Ridiculous Recovery

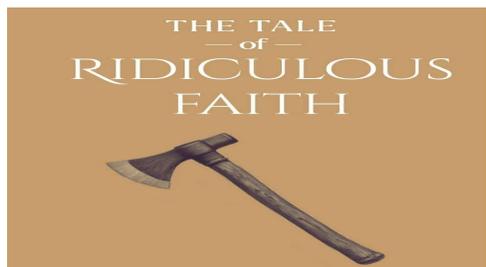
(Ridiculous Faith Series, Part 3)

A Lord's Flock Worship Topic

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The story of Elijah, the teacher, and Elisha, the student, demonstrates how their faith was crucial in executing their mission. Moreover, they would not have been able to execute their mission without commitment as challenges are inevitable. Elisha was with a worker whose axe made of iron sank into the river. But, when Elisha threw a wooden stick into the water, the iron axe miraculously floated and the man was able to retrieve it (2 Kings 6:1-7). Similarly, God promises recovery and restoration to those who lose something that is difficult to get back.



1. Elisha's miracle stories already unfolded before the miracle of the axe head (2Kings 6: 1 - 7):

- 1.1. Healing of poisoned water (2Kings 2:19-22)
- 1.2. Raising the dead child (2Kings 4:32-37)
- 1.3. Multiplication of food (2Kings 4: 42-44)
- 1.4. Healing of Namaan (2Kings 5: 1-14)

2. Why is trust in the Lord Important?

- 2.1. All of us go through a season or experience of loss: money, talent, relationship, trust, and motivation.
- 2.2. Whenever we feel lost, God invites us to TRUST Him more (Prov. 3:5-6).
- 2.3. Trusting God is the source of our RECOVERY and STRENGTH (Prov. 3:7-8).
- 2.4. Any experience of darkness or a sense of loss is only a season and is not permanent.

3. The names of Elijah and Elisha Signify Their Missions

- 3.1. Elijah means **YAHWEH is my GOD**. His mission is to reveal to the false prophets

that the God he worships is the superior/sovereign God.

- 3.2. Elisha means **YAHWEH is my SALVATION**. Elisha is a messianic figure, and his mission is to show the world that God will fulfill His promise of salvation through Jesus. Elisha's miracles often anticipated God's greater work of restoring His people.

4. Jesus Is the Fulfillment GOD's Promises

- 4.1. The miracle stories of the lost coin, lost sheep, and lost son remind us of the experience of recovery.
- 4.2. Our ridiculous recovery begins when we invite Christ in our lives.

5. Jesus Christ is our ELISHA- our Salvation

- 5.1. The wooden branch thrown into the river is the Cross of Christ, as interpreted by the church fathers. If not for the wooden cross that was carried by Christ, our salvation will not happen.
- 5.2. Without the wood/the Cross, recovery and restoration will not happen. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (Jn. 10:10). "See, I am making all things new" (Rev. 21:5).
- 5.3. Only when we embrace the Cross of Christ will we recover what we have lost.

Conclusion:

Every time we trust God more, He makes it possible for other parts of our life to flourish and for us to receive the blessings we may have lost.

Reflection:

1. What have you lost recently that you are desperate to recover?
2. Have you invited the cross of Christ into your life?

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