

## “PROTECTING THE MANTLE IN YOUR HANDS”

### **TEXT I: 2 Kings 2:8**

And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped *it* together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two (Elijah and Elisha) went over on dry ground.

### **2 Kings 2:13**

(As Elijah ascended into heaven), Elisha took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;  
**14** Then he took the mantle and struck the waters. “Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?” he asked. And when he had struck the waters, they parted to the right and to the left, and Elisha crossed over.

The mantle serves a symbolic purpose of showing we are wrapped in God's authority, power and glory.

Mantle is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, similar to how Jesus received the Spirit "descending" on Him at His baptism (Matthew 3:16). The audible voice of God in Matthew 3:17 confirms Jesus as God's chosen servant. We see a similar "falling" of the Spirit in Acts 8:15–16 and Acts 10:44. It's only after Elisha takes the fallen mantle that he performs miraculous works (2 Kings 2:14, 21, 24). The Holy Spirit is the Person who empowers God's people to do God's work (Micah 3:8; Matthew 12:28; Ephesians 3:16).

**"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and Power and He went about doing good, performing miracles, healing the sick and raising the dead."**

**If you have received the mantle, no matter what life presents, make every deliberate effort to protect the mantle.**

## **2 Corinthians 4:**

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.10We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

**No matter what is going on around us, God expects us to protect our mantle of power and authority – hold stability in faith.**

### **Danger is that**

“Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.”

“Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most grow cold”

“For many others, the overwhelming spread of evil will do them in”

**But only those who stand to the end will be saved! (Matthew 24:12)**

## **Matthew 10:16**

"Listen! I am sending you out just like sheep to a pack of wolves. You must be as cautious as snakes and as gentle as doves. (Good News)

... be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves. (NIV)

... be therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. (KJV)

**Deuteronomy 31:6** "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Those who are not cautious will behave foolishly in time of challenges:

**In Job 2, as Job faced challenges of life,**

<sup>9</sup> His wife said to him, “Are you still maintaining your integrity?  
Curse God and die!”

<sup>10</sup> Job replied, “You are talking like a foolish<sup>[b]</sup> woman. Shall we  
accept good from God, and not trouble?”

**Job was committed to protecting his mantle.**

**For those who rise to the call of protecting their mantle, God  
always rises for them.**

**Joel 2: 25** I will repay you for the years that the swarming locusts  
have eaten—the young locust, the destroying locust, and the  
devouring locust— My great army that I sent against you. **26** You  
will have plenty to eat, until you are satisfied. You will praise the  
name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you.

**In 1 King 16,**

**Elijah operated in a time when there was so much sin in Israel**

<sup>30</sup> Ahab (the king of Israel) did more evil in the eyes of the LORD than any of those before him.

**But Elijah was committed to protecting his mantle of power and authority.**

**17** Now Elijah, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

**1 Kings 18:1:** After a long time, in the third year of the drought, the word of the LORD came to Elijah: "Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the face of the earth."

**This began the turning point for righteousness and respect for God in Israel.**

**LETS COMMIT TO PROTECTING THE MANTLE IN YOUR HANDS, NO MATTER THE SITUATION. GOD BLESS YOU!**

## 2019 PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray over today's message. Commitment to protect our mantle no matter what
2. For KCM ask for grace to diligently fulfil its mandate as "the house of prayer for all nations" (Isaiah 56:7), extending God's love to all the nations.
3. Prayer for the Leaders of Nations – to understand their mantle and commit to it
4. Thank God for stopping wars in nations. Ask Him for peace to continue to reign
5. Continue to ask God to have mercy on our land, forgive our sins & heal us (2 Chro, 7:13-18).
6. Pray for Ministers and Missionaries.- to understand their mantle and commit to it
7. Pray for Marriages, Children and families. Restoration of troubled marriages & children – family to understand their mantle and commit to it
8. Pray for Members of the fellowship - understand their mantle and commit to it
9. Pray for the needs of the members & the fellowship, and any special request.
10. Also pray for next Sunday.