

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

Vol. XX

June 6, 2010

No. 23

How “Big” Is Your God?

Jerry Fite

Paul exalts our great God in closing his intercessory prayer for the Ephesians with, “*Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations forever and ever. Amen*” (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Part of being strong inwardly is to be grounded in the surpassing knowledge of God’s love and know of God’s abounding power to act on our behalf. If you were to ask Paul how “big” is God, he could answer you by saying He is able to do more than you could ever think of or ask; In fact- “*exceeding, abundantly, above*” your thoughts and requests. God’s resources are never tapped out. His power is not only sufficient to provide every need, it is never pushed to the limits.

Elisha was a man whose God was bigger than most think. As he accompanied Elijah to the Jordan for Elijah’s glorious exit into the heavens, he asks for a “*double portion*” of Elijah’s spirit. Elijah replied that such request is “*hard*” for him to do. But he gave Elisha a sign to see if God would grant the double por-

tion. If he saw Elijah exit into glory, God would give a double portion of the Spirit that was upon Elijah. Since Elisha “*saw*” Elijah exit this world upon “*chariots of fire and horses of fire,*” it is necessarily inferred that Elisha received his double portion. Elisha knew His God was big enough to provide more than a normal portion. He asked, and His “Big” God provided.

Do you desire to be a strong Christian? Do you want a deep and abiding faith? God has provided his sufficient and powerful word to develop that kind of faith and strength. Why don’t you ask him to help you rise above any barrier keeping you from allowing the word to produce spiritual strength in your life. Elisha says God is “big” enough to give “double” portions. Ask and you will receive what is needed to accomplish your spiritual goal (Matt. 7:7-8). Has past failure diminished your expectations to the point that you no longer ask for God’s help? Elisha, and Paul say your God is big enough and is able to do exceeding abundantly above all you could ever ask or think.

Elisha knew his God was “big” enough to multiply re-

sources from small portions. When a widow of a prophet had only a pot of oil and faced the sad reality of losing her sons to slavery to pay off her debts, Elisha shows her how “big” God is. He told her to borrow as many vessels as she could. The more would be better. In the privacy of her home, she began filling each vessel. God multiplied the oil to fill each vessel and she still had oil when all the provided vessels were filled. Elisha instructed her to sell the vessels of oil, pay off her debt and live off the rest. Problem solved (2 Kings 4:1-7)!

Today, God does not have to work such a miracle to help you understand how “big” He is. He can take the limited resources of any Christian who is willing to share what he or she has. God “*shall supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the fruits of your righteousness*” (2 Corinthians 9:10). You will be amazed to find out how Big God is when you cheerfully give as you have been prospered.

Don’t cheat yourself of abundant spiritual blessings because your God is not “big” enough to meet your need. The blessed in the Bible have a “Big” God. Make Him your God!