**When Will Your Influence Die?**

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**The Way Church**

**Brother David S. Wilson**

Message Title: When Will Your Influence Die?

Message Truth: When Jesus encounters the dead, the dead live.

Scripture: **2 Kings 13:14-21**

**14**Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, “O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!” **15**And Elisha said to him, “Take a bow and some arrows.” So he took himself a bow and some arrows. **16**Then he said to the king of Israel, “Put your hand on the bow.” So he put his hand *on it,* and Elisha put his hands on the king’s hands. **17**And he said, “Open the east window”; 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 you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed *them.*” **18**Then he said, “Take the arrows”; so he took *them.* And he said to the king of Israel, “Strike the ground”; so he struck three times, and stopped. **19**And the man of God was angry with him, and said, “You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed *it!* But now you will strike Syria *only* three times.” **20**Then Elisha died, and they buried him. And the *raiding* bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year. **21**So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band *of raiders;* and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

1. Elisha had **GRIT.**

**2 Kings 13:14**Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, “O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!”

A. Elisha was fighting the very illness that would kill him; however, he never quit doing the work of the Lord.

B. Elisha was not defined by his circumstance; Elisha was defined by his Lord. He was a prophet and prophecy he did.

1. Elisha had a **GIFT.**

**2 Kings 13:15-17**And Elisha said to him, “Take a bow and some arrows.” So he took himself a bow and some arrows. **16**Then he said to the king of Israel, “Put your hand on the bow.” So he put his hand *on it,* and Elisha put his hands on the king’s hands. **17**And he said, “Open the east window”; 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 you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed *them.*”

1. Elisha was a prophet.
2. Elisha used his gift.
3. Elisha expected obedience.
4. Elisha expected results.
5. Elisha had **GUTS.**

**2 Kings 13:17-18**Then he said, “Take the arrows”; so he took *them.* And he said to the king of Israel, “Strike the ground”; so he struck three times, and stopped. **19**And the man of God was angry with him, and said, “You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed *it!* But now you will strike Syria *only* three times.”

1. Elisha became angry and did not sin.
2. Elisha confronted disobedience head-on.
3. Elisha expected ALL IN!
4. Elisha had **GRAVITAS.**

**2 Kings 13:14**Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said,…

**2 Kings 13:21**So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band *of raiders;* and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

1. Gravitas is a commanding presence, a dignity.
2. Elisha had a demanding presence even on his death bed.
3. Elisha’s presence and influence lived longer than his flesh.