

Bible Class Notes – Studies in 1 and 2 Kings – Lesson 123

Sin and its Cure

This week – Only Almighty God has the cure for our sin through Christ’s death and resurrection.

**Elisha went in, and shut the door ...
and prayed unto the LORD... and the flesh
of the child waxed (became) warm. 2 Kings 4v33,34**

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	2 Kings 4v8-17 (God rewards the Shunammite Woman)	
Monday	2 Kings 4v18-26 (Her son dies, she goes to Elisha)	
Tuesday	2 Kings 4v27-37 (God uses Elisha to restore her sons’ life)	
Wednesday	Ephesians 1 (God’s electing love to save a People to Himself)	
Thursday	Ephesians 2 (Quickened from the dead by the Holy Spirit)	
Friday	Romans 5 (Justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ)	
Saturday	Psalm 105v26-45 (God’s Sovereign Power Praised)	

Important Lesson for us Today: Can and does God perform miracles today? **Yes**, because He never changes. **BUT** a careful study of God’s Word shows that He only performed these miracles at special times, through selected faithful men. We use the term ‘Sign Miracles’, as they were to authenticate the person God used – e.g. Moses, Elijah, Elisha, The Apostles. Some of these men were also used of God to write Scripture under the inspiration of The Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus Christ performed many miracles to demonstrate that He is God. Now that we have The Bible, God’s completed Word, we have all we need to know, so we no longer need men working miracles today. God can still answer prayer in a miraculous way – e.g. to heal a sick person etc. **BUT** He does not use men today to perform miracles in the way He did in the Bible. The greatest miracle that God performs today is that of the Holy Spirit quickening (renewing a spiritually dead heart) to cause the person to repent and believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Read Ephesians 2 v1-8

Hymn 345 is the Lord’s call to us - How will we respond?

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| <p>1. The Saviour calls; let every ear
Attend the heavenly sound;
May doubting souls dismiss their fear;
Hope smiles reviving round.</p> <p>3. Dear Saviour, draw reluctant hearts,
To Thee let sinners fly,
And seek the bliss Thy love imparts,
And take and never die.</p> | <p>2. For every thirsting, longing heart,
Here streams of blessing flow;
And life, and health, and bliss impart,
To banish mortal woe.</p> <p>4. May sinners hear Thy mercy’s voice,
Thy gracious call obey;
May hearts be turned to heavenly joys,
And come without delay.</p> |
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Meeting Death – The Shunammite’s Son.

- **The Shunammite Woman – A Sincere Believer.**
 - She arranged for a room to be built for Elisha, the man of God, to stay in when he passed that way. She and her husband were old and they had no children.
 - **A Sudden Death – A Few Years Later.**
 - **A Very Special Son.** God had provided her with a son late in life.
 - **The Boy Unexpectedly Died.** He was working with his father out in the field and became very ill. He was taken to his mother but, sadly, he died in her arms.
 - **A Picture of Spiritual Death – Entering the world when Adam sinned.** Romans 5v12
 - **Although** we are alive physically, our souls are born dead towards God. Being spiritually dead means that we are unable to make any move towards God
 - **God’s Miraculous Intervention.**
 - **The mother went urgently to Elisha.** Hoping that he could bring help from God. *We must go urgently to the Lord and His Word. Only He has the ‘Words of Eternal Life’.*
 - **Elisha sent his servant Gehazi ahead.** But he could not bring the boy back to life. *No man-made solution or method can succeed in renewing our relationship with God.*
 - **Elisha came.** She stayed with him believing that only God could bring life to her son. *We must look to the Lord. He is the only One who can ‘quicken’ us, renewing our dead soul.*
 - **Elisha went to the boy.**
- Reminding us that the Lord Jesus came from Heaven to die on Calvary to save us.*
- **Elisha prayed to God.** He knew that only God, The Prince of Life, could restore life. *We, your teachers, pray that the Lord will give you life, taking away deadness of unbelief.*
 - **Elisha ‘gave’ himself to the boy.** He stretched himself over the boy’s dead body. *The Lord Jesus gave Himself to live a perfect life and then to be punished for His People’s sin.*
 - **The boys’ body became warm.** Amazingly, signs of life began to appear. *Maybe you are beginning to listen more carefully, and pray to the Lord more earnestly.*
 - **Elisha was not content.** He stretched himself again over the boy’s body. *We must persist in our sincerity of repentant prayers until the Lord hears and answers.*
 - **The boy ‘awoke’ as if he had been asleep.** He sneezed 7 times. *“Take up thy son” The awakened soul grasps what lengths Christ went to, to rescue us from the jaws of death.*
 - **The Amazing Steps of Spiritual Awakening – From Death to Life.**
 - **From birth our souls are spiritually dead towards God. We need God’s help.**
 - **The Holy Spirit quickens, breathes life into our souls, giving us faith to believe.**
 - **We are ‘Born Again’, made alive towards God. Converted. Saved for Eternity.**
 - **We now love the Saviour and want to worship and serve Him every day.**

Paul wrote, “But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ ... For by grace ye are saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.