

Associates for Scriptural Knowledge • P.O. Box 25000, Portland, OR 97298-0990, USA

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Webpage on the Internet: <http://www.askelm.com> • E-Mail address: [askoffice@askelm.com](mailto:askoffice@askelm.com)

Dear Associates and Friends,

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The northern Kingdom of Israel is the scene of this month's article, "[Israel and Judah: 26. God's Miracles through Elisha the Prophet.](#)" Elisha is the major character, yet God works behind the scenes through Elisha.

### *Cast of Characters:*

1. The prophet Elisha (his name means "God saves" or "God is savior") performs God's miracles of various kinds that are types of the greater miracles done by Jesus in His ministry. It is interesting to note that while Elisha never doubted God's faithfulness to him, he did not always seem fully informed about how matters will turn out, not until God's miracles occurred.
2. A widow of one of the sons of the prophets, who was given oil for herself and her family for debts.
3. The Shunammite woman, given a great gift for her acts of kindness.
4. Her son, the gift who died.
5. Gehazi, who we met before. He did good, and evil.
6. Naaman, a Gentile Syrian general of the army, highly regarded by his king and his servants, healing from Elisha, YHWH's prophet.
7. The King of Syria, (see 10 below), invaded the Kingdom of Israel.
8. The King of Israel (unnamed), ineffectively defended his realm, repeatedly taken by surprise.
9. A group of the sons of the prophets. They have axes to grind.
10. Benhadad, King of Syria, named this time. Nothing goes right for him when Elisha was involved.
11. Four lepers who made a remarkable discovery.
12. The adjutant of the King of Israel, who died for disparaging God.

Enjoy and be edified by this month's article. Note how God arranges details and circumstances to do His will.

### *Thank You*

Did you ever think that this verse is about you?

**"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God has from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth."**

• **2 Thessalonians 2:13**

Though Paul wrote in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, he wrote about you. The events Paul presented up to verse 13 have not occurred at any time, not even to your reading these words. The events are: the judgment at Christ's coming (verses 1:5–12); revelation of the man of lawlessness (verses 2:1–12). Then comes verse 2:13.

Has Christ returned? No. Or the man of lawlessness been revealed? No. God has "**chosen you to salvation**" to this moment and the future. Thank you, brethren, for helping us give such knowledge to others.

David W. Sielaff  
[david@askelm.com](mailto:david@askelm.com)