

God's work for his own purposes. So Elisha used a means here of demonstrating the attitude of the king. Elisha says, "Take bow and arrows," and the king says, "Well the old man--I don't ~~know~~ know what he has in mind but we'll humor the old man" He picks up the bow and the arrows and Elisha says, "Put your hand on the bow" and the king put his hand on the bow and then Elisha puts his hands on the king's hands and he says, "Open the window ~~westward~~ eastward toward the Syrians," and he opens it. Then Elisha says, "Shoot" and he releases his hand and the arrow shoots. Elisha says, "The arrow of the Lord's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria for thou shalt smite the Syrians in Affephek until thou hast consumed them." There is going to be a battle in Aphek, a battle in which Joash will be destroyed. Now that is an interesting prediction. Let's hope it comes ~~back~~ true. It is very nice that the old man is giving us hope for the future. But he doesn't express any great note of rejoicing or of praise to God or any desire that ~~if~~ if God shall do this wonderful thing for him that he shall be a true servant of God who will faithfully serve the Lord. Elisha proceeds with another object lesson.

~~He takes the arrows. So~~

He says, "Take the arrows." So the king takes a number of arrows and then he says to the king of Israel, "Smite on the ground." Here is Elisha the prophet of God on his death bed and the king comes and tells Elisha how much he means to the nation and now Elisha gives the king a chance to show just how sincere he is in his feeling that Elisha is indeed God's representative and to follow God is what matters. He says, "Smite on the ground." And the king of Israel if he is just anxious to do what the prophet says and anxious to be in line with the Lord's will whether he fully understands it or not, would of course take these arrows and stamp on the ~~ground~~ ground hard with the arrows and just carry out with vigor and enthusiasm the thing which the prophet of God tells him to do.