

And they said to Elisha, Maybe the Spirit of God has taken Elijah up and dropped him down in some desolate valley and he will starve there. Let us send somebody to look for him. It shows their substitution and their lack of knowledge. They had desire but they ~~did~~ did not have ~~knowledge~~ knowledge, and the rest of the land and ~~people~~ did not even know that Elijah was going. The only man who realized Elijah's ~~ix~~ importance when ~~Elijah died there~~, when Elijah was taken up into ~~heaven~~ heaven, ~~there~~ was Elisha, <sup>and</sup> We read in II Kings 2:12 that when Elijah was taken up to heaven, Elisha cried, my father, my father, <sup>the</sup> chariot of Israel and <sup>the</sup> horsemen there. Of course, that is <sup>using the</sup> a figure of that day. Today, we might say my father, my father, the jet planes and missiles of Israel, and <sup>the</sup> battleships and <sup>air carriers</sup> the <sup>air</sup> plane thereof. He was using the terms that Elisha recognized, that Elijah was the protection of Israel, the ~~one~~ assurance of its continuance, because he was the one who was ~~standing~~ standing before God, and representing God among the ~~Israel~~. It was a tremendous tribute to Elijah, but given by one man who stood beside him, <sup>the</sup> When off here there were superstitious backward sons of the prophets wondering what was happening, whether the Spirit of God ~~has~~ fellow would lift him up and dump him down in some valley where the poor ~~prophet~~ would starve to death. The rest of the land did not even know <sup>that</sup> if he existed.

Now, ~~somebody~~ somebody ~~may~~ may say, probably some of you are saying, that I am misinterpreting this completely <sup>that</sup> when he said, the chariot of Israel and the horseman thereof, there ~~was~~ he was not describing Elijah at all. <sup>He</sup> ~~was~~ was describing the chariot that took him up to heaven. ~~Probably some of you are saying~~ But it is easy to prove that that criticism of ~~what~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~I~~ I am saying is <sup>only</sup> false by looking at II Kings 13: <sup>you have</sup> because in II Kings ~~13~~ 13, you have the death of Elisha. When Elisha died, the king of Israel coming to him and seeing him there, II Kings 13:14. Now,