

of people regarding what they wish done after death, and so on. ^{and} It is perfectly clear today that all through the ancient world, if a man had ~~a son~~, one son, that was his heir; ^{son} if ~~if~~ a man had two sons, his property was provided into three parts, and the eldest son received ~~twice~~ twice as much as the other son, ^{it was} and if he had eight sons, ~~then he would~~ divide the property into nine parts, ^a and the oldest son receives ~~the~~ double portion. And so when Elisha said, that he would like to have ^a double portion of the Spirit of Elijah, he is not asking to be twice as great as Elijah. ~~He is not~~ He ^{is} not necessarily ~~happy~~ ^{asking} asking to be as ~~happy~~ to be half as great as Elijah.

He is saying, I would like to be your successor. I would like to be recognized as your eldest son, the one who can carry on, who can endeavor to the best of ^{my} his ability to carry on your work. That is what is saying. ^{Let a} The double portion of thy Spirit be given unto me. Now, of course, God had told Elijah more than that. He had said, You shall anoint him to be prophet, ~~and~~ in your place, but Elijah ~~says~~ ^a said, says, You have asked the ~~the~~ hard thing. ~~How could you be my eldest son?~~ How could you be the same as my eldest son? How ~~would you be the same as my~~ ^{leading} could you be the same as my living successor? How could that be possible? You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if ~~you~~ ^{thee} thou seest me when I am taken from ~~you~~, it shall be so unto thee, but if not, it shall not be so. Elijah had ^a been watching Elisha all these years. He says, He is a nice young fellow. He certainly is double. He certainly is interested in learning. And he is so ready to help in every possible way. ^{But} Can you imagine him standing facing the