

righteous person. Even though they speak well of you ordinarily, if you follow the Lord you are going to have the enmity of the world. The good things may be added to you in this life and they may not be. It may be persecution and suffering and misery in this life. We cannot tell what the Lord will chose to send us in this life, but we must not trust the friendship of the world or look for it. If we do we will be disappointed. It may come to us. The ~~xxx~~ chances are that it will, but in time of crisis we will find that it is absolutely not to be depended on. We will find that the very people who speak well of us when things are going well will turn against us and revile us in a time of crisis. In this situation of all men who were not to blame for this, you can well imagine Elisha is the one. Yet the king is ~~casting~~ ^{casting} the blame on Elisha. And he says, "I'm going to cut off the head of this man Elisha and then the people will see ~~that~~ what I'm going to do to to the ones who are responsible for this trouble. So he is going to kill Elisha. The Lord reveals to Elisha what is going to happen. So the king sends a messenger in front of him to Elisha and Elisha says to the elders who are with him. See this son of a liberal who are sent to take off my head. When the messenger comes, shut the door and hold ~~xx~~ fast the door. His master will be right behind him. The messenger came and right behind him came the king himself. Whether the king was actually going to kill Elisha at this time or whether he was going to make a scare we are not told. At any rate he did not kill him immediately. But Elisha then had a situation where people were bound to listen to him. The king was there threatening to kill him. Elders of the king were with him. People were gathered round about him. Again we find the economy of miracles, the economy of revelation. God gives His revelation at a point where it will have some effect. These men are there. He is given a sounding board. He is given that which will make people know what he says. So the last two verses of the paragraph run into the first part of Chapter 7 and tell how Elisha gives the prediction in the word of the Lord. He said, "Tomorrow at this time a measure of fine flour will cost far less than the head of a donkey ~~as of~~ ^{costs} today. Two measures of barley will cost far less