

Yesterday we looked at the career of Elijah. We saw his great strength, his marvellous courage, his indomitable faith. The way he stood against the prophets of Baal, and subdued them. Never in history has there been greater controversialist than Elijah, or one whom God has greatly used. The accomplishment of this man was perfectly tremendous. If he had not been then, it is safe to say that the Northern kingdom would have relapsed into utter apostasy, at least a century earlier than it did. If he had not been, the Baal worship would have swept on from the Northern kingdom into the southern kingdom, and humanly speaking there would have been no remnant left to preserve the books of the Bible, and to prepare the way for the coming of Christ. Elijah is one of the great heroes of the faith and receives great credit both in the Old and in the New Testament.

Elisha is probably much less known than Elijah. He is not referred to as frequently in the New Testament nor is he in general spoken about as much as Elijah. Yet, I feel that we can safely say that if the work of Elisha had not been followed by the work of Elijah, it would have been like a thunder storm that produces great devastation for a couple of years and then is largely forgotten. It would have been a mere flash in the pan. It would have been a wonderful meteoric occurrence which would have attracted tremendous attention for a brief period and then been forgotten except as fables and myths would go around it and enlarge it and distort it and make it into something entirely different from what it really was. It was the work of Elisha that followed up the work of Elijah, and made it lasting, and enabled it to accomplish so much. We also noticed, of course, that the work of Elisha, though this work would have accomplished something at any time, and would have left a real mark on the lives of some people, no matter when it was done, it probably would not have accomplished *one hundredth*