

SYMBOLS, SALT & A SAVIOUR



**ALL SORTS OF SIGNS,
SYMBOLS WE SEE &
UNDERSTAND EVERY
DAY, WORDS THAT
HAVE MEANINGS**

十字架

十字架

CHINESE CHARACTER FOR THE WORD 'CROSS'

十字架

十 = Ten , Complete, Perfect

字 = a Word, a Character, To betroth a girl (bind with a promise to marry).

架 = a Rack or Frame, to lay something on, to prop up

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十 = Ten, Complete, Perfect

字 = a Word, a Character, to betroth a girl (bind with a promise to marry).

Top = A Roof, a Cover. Lower = cover above the son, child, offspring or seed

架 = *a Rack or Frame, to lay something on, to prop up.*

Top L = Strength, Power. Top R = Breath, Person, Gate
Lower = The power & strength of the person upon a tree

Elisha the Prophet

Background

- ▶ Nation was falling apart. Why? They forgot about God
- ▶ Breakfast, coffee, job, news, netflix, sport, holiday
- ▶ God's people: instead of influencing culture, culture influenced them – nation going downhill.
- ▶ They settled for Comfort, Pleasure, Convenience
- ▶ What gets your attention gets you!
- ▶ In the middle of the mess – comes Elisha

Elisha's name means "My God is Salvation"

► **1 Kings 19:15-21**

Then the Lord said to him (Elijah): "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria.

Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

► **1 Kings 19:15-21**

19 So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him. And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah, and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you."

And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?"

So Elisha turned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen and slaughtered them and boiled their flesh, using the oxen's equipment, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah, and became his servant.



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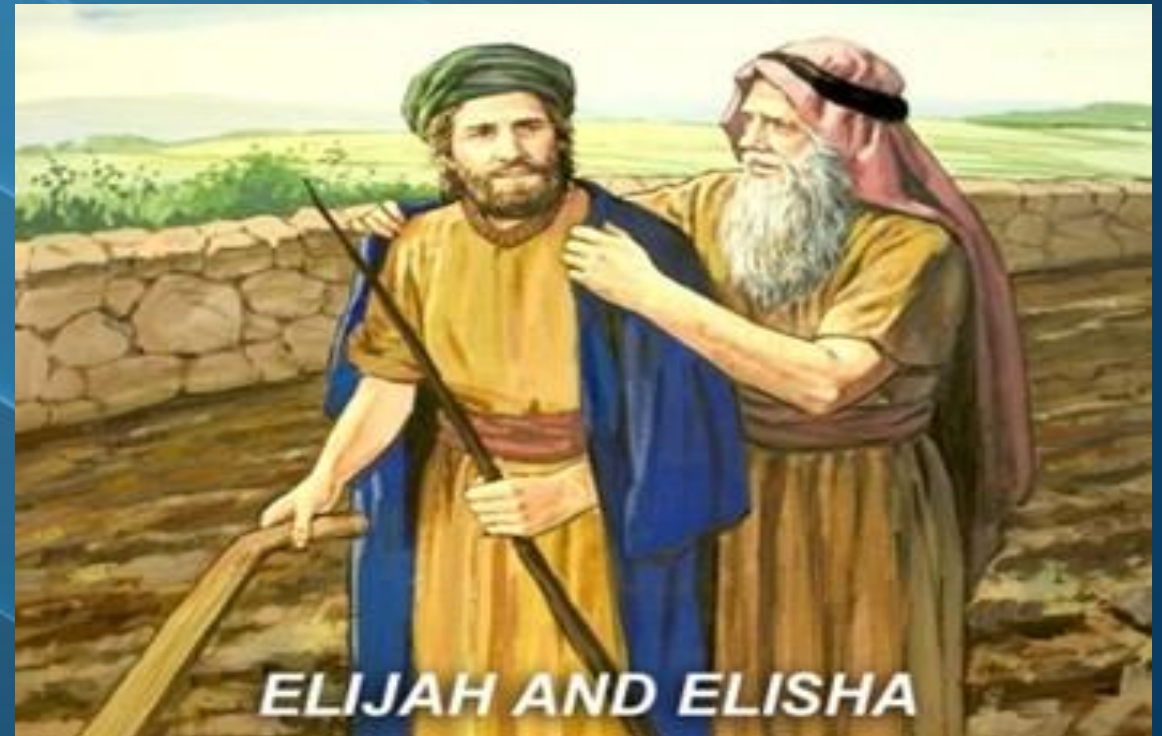
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Symbol of the mantle

Significance of mantle

Implied covenant, connection with God. Called to make God's word known.

Power and authority from God to do it.



▶ *So Elisha turned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen and slaughtered them and boiled their flesh, using the oxen's equipment, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah, and became his servant.*

▶ Elisha was certainly giving up all to follow Elijah





12 Oxen

***average 1000 kg ea = 640
kg trimmed meat x 12
oxen.***

***This = 7680 kg which
would provide 65,000
burgers***

Big BBQ - fed a few people

Then he arose and followed Elijah and became his servant.

- Elijah looked after a number of Prophet Schools and Elisha was his servant or student at one of these schools.
- Elisha spent up to 10 years in one of these schools (Bible college) - SOM?
- They were founded upon belief as a first principle. Belief in God's active communication to his people and belief in the salvation God provides for his people. These prophetic schools were faith-based educational institutions.

Then he arose and followed Elijah and became his servant.

- At the end of up to 10 years at Prophet School, what was Elisha's qualification?
- 2 Kings 3: *An officer of the king of Israel answered, "Elisha son of Shaphat is here. He used to pour water on the hands of Elijah".*

▶ 2 Kings 2: 19-22

▶ *Then the men of the city (**Jericho**) said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."*

▶ Joshua 6: 26

- ▶ *At that time Joshua pronounced this solemn oath:
"Cursed before the LORD is the one who undertakes to
rebuild this city, Jericho:*
- ▶ *"At the cost of his firstborn son he will lay its foundations;
at the cost of his youngest he will set up its gates."*

City lay in ruins for years more than 500 years.



▶ 2 Kings 2: 19-22

- ▶ *Then the men of the city (Jericho) said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."*
- ▶ *And he said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him.*
- ▶ *Then he went out to the source of the water, and cast in the salt there, and said, "Thus says the LORD: 'I have healed this water; from it there shall be no more death or barrenness.'*
- ▶ *So the water remains healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.*



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- ▶ *And he said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it."
So they brought it to him.*
- ▶ *Leviticus 2: 13*
- ▶ *And every offering of your grain offering you shall season with salt; you shall not allow the salt of the covenant of your God to be lacking from your grain offering. With all your offerings you shall offer salt.*

God says salt is associated with His covenant with His people

Salt: Everlasting – Incorruptible

Salt: Covenant or agreement – Symbol



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New Bowl filled with Salt (covenant - agreement)
that takes away the curse – of a city.

Salt applied at the source, not at mouth of stream
but at the heart



Luke 22 v19-20

And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

*Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the **new covenant** in My blood, which is shed for you."*

Galatians 3 v13-14

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

2 Cor 5: 17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Jericho – no longer a city with a curse, power of the curse has gone.

If I am in Christ, a new creation, I am free, accepted as a child of God. No circumstances can get in the way of the forgiveness of Christ Jesus.

The only thing that can get in the way is unbelief.

My new identity is in Christ – the flesh and sin are still there but the **power** has been broken by Jesus who conquered sin and death.

2 Kings 2:22

*So, the water **remains healed to this day**, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.*

- Today: average rate of discharge from the spring = approx 10,800 litres per minute as clean water for city.
- Provides irrigation for orange and lemon trees, date palms, flowers and spices

