

make such a guess, but in this particular case I would think it extremely unlikely. The circumstances here certainly don't suggest Hazael knew of any such anointing. That doesn't rule out the possibility but it certainly makes it extremely probable.

#### Elijah

Now we find Elisha going. The command to ~~Elisha~~ is a command carried out by Elijah through Elijah's successor. So Elijah's successor, Elisha, carried out the command. I would think that certainly the Lord must have told Elisha, "Now is the time for you to go to Damascus and there is work for you to do there." So Elisha went up to Damascus. The people of Syria had been trying to capture him before but now there is evidently peace between the two nations and he is safe in going up there. So he goes up to Damascus and the word comes to the king of Syria that the man of God has come hither. The one who told the king of Israel the words that Benhadad said in his bed chamber, the one who had the power of knowing ~~what~~ what ordinary humans couldn't possibly know, the one who had given the words to Naaman that had resulted in Naaman's being healed. This one is now in Damascus, and so the king sees a wonderful opportunity. He says to one of his leading men, "Take a present and go and meet this man of God. Ask him saying, 'Shall I recover of this disease?'" What does that mean-- "shall I recover of this disease?" It means, is this a terrible disease? Is this a fatal disease or is this a curable disease? Is this a disease that is going to kill me or isn't it? The Hebrew has no difference between "shall I recover" or "may I recover"? The mobile expression does not have expression in Hebrew. The question is, is it a mortal disease? He doesn't say, am I going to fall down stairs tomorrow and get killed? He doesn't say, is some enemy going to come in and drive a spear into me and kill me? He doesn't say, is there going to be some underhanded murder, some assassination on the part of someone who pretends to be a friend? He says, how about this disease? Is this disease going to kill me or isn't it? He comes and Elisha gives the answer. The Authorized Version, I think, translates it very well-- "Thou mayest certainly