

dynasty. He had no fear at all before king Ahab. Over in II Kings 1 we find him facing the messages of Heshiah--Ahaziah and fearlessly knowing that there is nothing that ~~he can do for him~~ man can do to him, if God ~~shalt~~ should permit man to do anything to him, it would be because it was God's purpose and his work then is finished. But no man can hurt him unless it is part of God's ~~will~~, wonderful will. Therefore with absolute courage he stands before the messengers of the king, and he says ~~if I am the~~ ~~the ideal~~ man of God, Let fire come down from heaven and consume thee and thy fifty. The trait of Elijan is a marvellous quality. Alas, also here at his great strength we find at one vital point in his ministry that he failed miserably. These are not the great outstanding qualities of Elijah. His ~~strength~~ <sup>faith</sup> and his <sup>un</sup> courage... what are the ~~fortunate~~ qualities of Elijah? A minor one, yet an unfortunate one is his burlesqueness, his lack of courtesy.

It is a wonderful thing for a man to have courtesy. It is wonderful to be <sup>gracious, and</sup> to show kindness to ~~others~~ <sup>all</sup>. People <sup>say</sup> sometimes you can drive more flies ~~and~~ and attract more flies with sugar than you can with vinegar. This is surely true. The man of ~~god~~ <sup>try to</sup> should be kind and gracious, kindly to attract people to him; yet there are many whom God has marvellous used do not have these qualities. Yes, He has ~~used~~ them inspite of lack of this quality, rather than because of it. I can say this is definitely a ~~weakness~~ <sup>weakness</sup> in Elijah's part, but it is a weakness which is clearly brought out in the account. We find his language often very stern and rather hard-hearted. Perhaps nowhere this comes out more than when he obeys God's command to call <sup>Elisha</sup> Elijah. God says to Elijah down at Sinai. ~~Elijah-the-son-of-Shaphath;-----;shalt-thou anoint-anoint-~~ "Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room." (I Kings 19:16b) Elijah is told that his work is to be taken over by another. But do we ~~ha~~ find the evidence that he passed on the word to Elisha? As the accounts tells us, he came to the north, back to the land of Israel, and there as he passed through Abelmeholah he saw Elisha plowing. We read in I Kings 19:19: and Elijan passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him." What a dramatic yet what a burlesque way to someone.