

Going Home – 2 Kings 2

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- I. Introduction
 - a. This World is Not My Home
 - i. Absent = Home – 2 Cor. 5:6-8
 - ii. Another homeland – Heb. 11:13-14
 - iii. Pilgrims – 1 Pet 1:1; 2:11
 - iv. Citizenship in heaven – Phil 3:20
- II. Key Thought – The occasion of Elijah’s departure from this world illustrates several key aspects of one of God’s people going home
- III. When we go Home, we go where others cannot come – v. 1-6
 - a. Elisha desired to stay with his friend and master
 - b. He went as far with him as he could
 - i. From Gilgal
 - ii. To Bethel
 - iii. To Jericho
 - iv. Across the Jordan
 - c. But where Elijah went, he could not go
 - d. Elijah wanted him to let him go
 - i. Elisha would not until he had to
 - ii. God took care of that
- IV. God can bring us home any way He chooses
 - a. Time
 - i. Announced by prophecy
 - b. Place
 - i. On the other side of a miraculous crossing of the Jordan
 - c. Manner
 - i. Chariots of Fire
 - ii. Whirlwind
 - iii. No death
 - d. Circumstances
 - i. Attended by Elisha
 - ii. Witnessed from afar by 50 sons of the prophets
 - e. All unusual in Elijah’s case
 - f. May be all ordinary in our case
 - g. God is in control
- V. When we go Home, we leave our responsibilities and cares to others
 - a. Elisha now has the job that Elijah once had
 - b. Elijah is done
 - c. But the job will still be done
 - d. Elijah was concerned that Elisha would have what he needed
 - i. v. 9-10
 - ii. But God would see to that

- e. God has people
- VI. When we go Home, we are done with this world forever
 - a. No more sorrow
 - b. Pain
 - c. Death
 - d. Sin
 - e. No one will see us here again
 - i. Wishful thinking
 - ii. But Elisha was more realistic
 - iii. So was David
 - 1. "I will go to him, but he will not return to me" 2 Sam. 12:23
- VII. Conclusion
 - a. If we live long enough we will see our loved ones leave this world
 - i. If they are God's child, they share the same hope as Elijah
 - ii. We can let them go, knowing they will be at home with God
 - b. We will depart this world
 - i. one way or another
 - 1. At our death
 - 2. When Christ returns
 - ii. When that happens
 - 1. We can trust God to "take care of things" in this world after we have gone
 - 2. We should do what we can for those we leave behind but also leave them in God's hands
 - c. Bottom Line
 - i. If we walk by faith – 1 Cor. 5:6-11
 - ii. We can die in faith – Heb 11:13-16
 - d. Are you God's child?
 - i. INVITATION