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