

FAITHFUL LIVING IN FALTERING TIMES | THE LIVES OF ELIJAH AND ELISHA
TOKEN DEVOTION: THE REACTION

2 Kings 5:15-27

11.12.23

True devotion is no token matter

Two wonders of God's grace to behold help us take it seriously:

#1 MARVEL AT GOD'S KINDNESS: THE TRUE DEVOTION GRACE INSPIRES (14-19a)

Five ways to marvel at God's kindness:

#1 Take God seriously: The deep consideration grace merits: '*...then he returned...*' (15a)

God's grace is not the end of our pursuit of him, but the beginning

#2 Take your allegiance seriously: The deep conviction grace secures: '*...Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel...*' (15b)

God's grace is found nowhere else but in him

#3 Take God's gifts seriously: The deep appreciation grace deserves: '*...accept now a present from your servant...but he refused...*' (15c-16)

God's grace is not deserved, cannot be earned, and neither can it be repaid

#4 Take change seriously: The deep transformation grace begins: '*...your servant...*' (17-18)

God's grace never leaves someone unchanged

#5 Don't take yourself too seriously: The deep recognition grace clarifies: '*...Go in peace...*' (19a)

God's grace will sustain us through the many complexities of life

#2 TREMBLE AT GOD'S SEVERITY: THE TOKEN 'DEVOTION' GRACE EXPOSES (19b-27)

Three commitments of those who tremble at God's severity:

#1 Refuse to compare yourself on human standards with others: The offense we can release (19b-20a)
God's grace is for God to decide

#2 Kill sin early before it matures: The evil we can repent of (20b-25)
God's grace can keep us from sin early on

#3 Count the costs: The judgment it incurs we can learn to escape (26-27)
God's grace is more necessary than we think