

So. Prof. Dec. 19, 1950 P.M.
So. Prof. Nov 15, 1953 P.M.
So. Prof. Hour of Prayer - June 13, 1956

THE AX HEAD SWIMS

II. Kings 6:1-7

Introduction:

like old man 91 stunk Bop - with cross st -
women counted this st - was members etc -
would be new joined with - they -
el toue Bop - it would rather with
ground on the Bop.

I. THE NEED FOR ENLARGEMENT (Vs. 1)

Gazahi had gone out smitten with leprosy. The meeting house had suddenly grown too small. Churches ought to grow and religious institutions also, because its the most important business on earth. New converts bring new interest.

ii. THEY FACED THE SITUATION (vs, 2)

They did not stand still but they showed a spirit of enterprise. Every one was a worker and interested in the building fund. Let every man go down and take a beam.

unity of spirit -

Do his part -

III. LOVE FOR ELISHIA (Vs. 3)

They wanted their master to go along and had he not been along their special effort would have been hindered. They also wanted his sanction, the church should always get Christ approval.

IV. AXEHEAD LOST (Vs. 4 & 5)

1. He lost his power for service *un-expected.*

As soon as it fell in the water he became helpless. Once he had power, now it was gone, sudden, un-expected. It is possible for a Christian worker to lose his power in service for God. The presence of the Holy Spirit will correspond to this.

2. He lost his power while working.

While he was felling a beam the axehead fell off. He was working but did not watch the axehead slipping slowly off. Its good to be a willing worker but let us not forget the spirit in which it should be done. Often the uprising of pride and self interest in the heart while doing service for God is slacking off the axe head of spiritual power.

3. He lost that which was not his own.

It was a borrowed axe. To apply this to the Christian worker, is not all of his power for service borrowed power, accountable to the Lord.

4. He became conscious of his loss.

As soon as the axe head disappeared he felt further effort was useless, therefore gave it up until things were put right again. No amount of earnest or eloquence or good intentions will make up for a loss of spiritual power. If he had gone on swinging the headless handle as if nothing had happened his friends would have said he was crazy. Rather than examining our methods when our work is fruitless we should tarry and be endued with power.

Samson became conscious of his loss of power.

5. He could no longer do his part of the work. He felt his obligation and yet he was unable to go on and to do what was expected of him.

*lots of Xian workers like this - serve no power -
teachers teach: no influence
no soul winning.*

*People serve in our churches who have no power,
do not have any heart in it.*

V. THE AXE HEAD RECOVERED (Vs. 6-7)

1. He appealed to the Master

To whome else could he go, if the man of God could not help him who could? He could not replace the loss himself. If you have lost power in your Christian work don't sit down and say there is nothing we can do about it. Take it to the Master, tell him that you have lost power to win souls and God will make it good.

2. MIRACLOUSLY RESTORED

a. The iron swims

The master was interested even in the small things.

b. Lost in darkness

c. Lost in mud

Morely told of his real iron power - while praying it came - & preached naturally. The same type sermon added to ch. - 2 1/2 million heard him in London.

It took a miracle. And every endowment of power is a miracle and every time the new birth is wrought it is a miracle.

Elishia took a new stick and cast it in. Would not this call to mind Moses use of a rod. And the casting in of a twig at Marrow. Natural strength is not enough. But it was supernatural power. And it will take the cross to lift lives that are burdened and weighed with the iron of sorrow and grief. It will take the cross as the iron was lifted out of the mud so Balaist says he took my feet out of a miry pit. And only through the cross can God lift up a hard heavy heart shoven down into the mud of the world and cause it to float upon the stream of life.

Rev. 40:2

The Ax Head Represents Power.

David lost his Power -

Thomas lost his Ax

Peter lost his Ax - where he had no business, carried, denied -

Where did you lose your Ax - your witness -

.. testimony -

.. influence -