

*"[Elisha] took up also The Mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; and he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, 'Where is the LORD God of Elijah?' And when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over." 2 Kings 2:13-14 KJV*

Elijah's mantle was a physical representation of his Holy Calling. Like Aaron's rod and Moses' staff, it distinguished him. It was the instrument God used to assure Elisha that He was with Him as He had been with Elijah. It wasn't the mantle or Elisha that parted the Jordan; it was the God of Elijah! The mantle symbolizes the Works of righteousness, obedience to God's Word, a believer's Faith displays; *"The Substance of Things Hoped For..."* Without Faith, good works avail nothing. They may garner favor from men, but *"all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags"* before God. Faith produces good works, but good works do not produce Faith and *"without Faith, it is IMPOSSIBLE to please...God!"* Faith *"Is The Gift of God. Faith Cometh by hearing...the Word of God."* Man is separated from God from birth and cannot hear the *"Still Small Voice."* Paul asked *"How shall the hear without a preacher? God Has Chosen the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."* God's Word must be preached by believers. Truth is foolishness to the world, but to those that hear *"It Is The Power of God unto Salvation to everyone that believeth."* A cell phone to George Washington, would have been foolishness. Men have no experiential frame of reference to evaluate God's Wisdom. It is foolishness to them. Faith in God is only understood by those that have and use it! Only Elisha knew what the mantle meant. It distinguished him as Elijah's successor. Faith, evidenced by good works, distinguishes believers in a wicked world. *"The Evidence of Things Not Seen."* It is the difference between fear and Peace; Love and hate; mortal and Immortal. Men dream of immortality on their own terms, but refuse it on God's terms. *"As many as received HIM, to THEM Gave He Power to become the sons of God."* It's not fairy tale, myth, or legend. It Is Absolute Truth! Jesus Said, *"I AM The Resurrection, And The Life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."* He Confirmed And Established This Absolute By Enduring the most cruel death ever devised by men; leaving a sealed guarded tomb open and empty three days later; just as He Said! It is historical fact verified by more historical documents than Columbus' voyage to the New World!



The mantle of a Holy life,  
Will stand alone amid earth's strife,  
While others stand confused, and dazed,  
The saint the tempest will not faze. –CGP

When believers begin to comprehend and actually believe they are truly Immortal Through Christ, their life takes a giant leap forward! Suddenly, there is no fear, anxiety, or suffering that can dim their Faith. A Great Peace Settles in their soul and they become *"stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in The Work of the Lord!"* The mantle of their works and countenance befuddle the wisest and convince the stubbornest, because they *"know whom [they] have believed, and [are] persuaded that He Is Able To Keep that which [they] have committed unto Him!"* They confidently possess what for others is only a dream! *"Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall NEVER DIE!"*

*"Casting all your care upon Him; For He Careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the Faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of All Grace, Who Hath Called us unto His Eternal Glory By Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, Make You Perfect, Stablish, Strengthen, Settle you." 1 Peter 5:7-10 KJV*