

Hazael Murders Ben-Hadad - 2 Kings 8:7-15

Topics: Answers, Beliefs, Gifts, Knowledge, Murder, Prophecy, Questions, Shame, Sickness, Sorrow, Truth

Open It

- * 1. Why does an unwavering stare tend to make us uncomfortable?
- 2. What person have you known or known of who strikes you as truly unscrupulous?
- 3. Why would you like (or not like) to see into the future?

Explore It

- 4. Where had Elisha journeyed? (8:7)
- * 5. What did the king of Aram want to know about his future? (8:8)
- 6. In what different ways did the king of Aram show respect for God and His prophet? (8:8-9)
- 7. Whom did the king send to inquire of Elisha? (8:8-9)
- 8. What was the discrepancy between Elisha's answer to the king and what he knew would actually happen? (8:10)
- * 9. After Elisha had revealed his insights to Hazael, what did he do? (8:10-11)
- * 10. What was Hazael's reaction to Elisha's stare? (8:11)
- 11. How did Elisha explain his weeping to Hazael? (8:12)
- 12. What awful deeds did Elisha predict for Hazael? (8:12)
- 13. What seems insincere about Hazael's reaction to Elisha's prophecy? (8:13)
- 14. What specific turn of historical events had God revealed to Elisha? (8:13)
- 15. What answer did Hazael report back to the king? (8:14)
- 16. What did Hazael do in fulfillment of Elisha's prophecy? (8:15)

Get It

- 17. Why did Ben-Hadad see Elisha's visit as an opportunity to learn his own fate?
- 18. What are some indications that Ben-Hadad trusted Hazael?
- 19. Why do you think Elisha sent one message to the king but revealed another outcome to Hazael?
- * 20. Why would Elisha's stare have made Hazael feel ashamed?
- 21. What difference does it make that God knows the outcome of our choices before we make them?
- * 22. In what sense was Elisha's God-given knowledge a burden to him?
- 23. Why do you think Hazael acted as if he didn't understand Elisha's implications?
- 24. Do you think his encounter with Elisha in any way changed Hazael's plans? Why?

Apply It

- * 25. How might you use the truth of God's Word to shed light on the choices facing someone in authority?
- 26. What instance of suffering (whether near by or far away) can be the subject of your earnest prayers this week?