

# REND YOUR GARMENTS

## PRIMARY TEXT:

*2 Kings 2:11-12 And it came to pass, AS they STILL WENT ON and TALKED (conversed), that, BEHOLD (revelation), there (“suddenly” – NIV) APPEARED a CHARIOT (vehicle, team) of FIRE, and HORSES OF FIRE, and PARTED (break through, separate, divide) THEM BOTH ASUNDER (between, in the midst); and Elijah WENT UP (to ascend) by a WHIRLWIND into HEAVEN.*

*12 And ELISHA SAW IT, and he CRIED (cry out, shriek), MY FATHER, MY (spiritual) FATHER, the CHARIOT of ISRAEL, and the HORSEMEN thereof. And he SAW HIM NO MORE (in that natural dimension): and he TOOK HOLD OF (seized) his own CLOTHES (covering, garments), and RENT them (to tear in pieces) in TWO PIECES.*

## INTRODUCTION

**PRINCIPLE: WHY did Elisha TEAR his GARMENTS?**

**NOTE: “GARMENTS” in the Scriptures are a PICTURE of:**

### 1. PRIESTLY MINISTRY.

*Exodus 28:1-2, KJV And take thou unto thee AARON thy brother, AND HIS SONS with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may MINISTER unto Me in the PRIEST’S OFFICE...  
2 And thou shalt make HOLY GARMENTS (coverings, clothing) for Aaron thy brother for GLORY and for BEAUTY.*

### 2. THE MANTLE—the ENDOWMENT of the SPIRIT, the ANOINTING—upon the MINISTRY.

**2 Kings 2:9,13, KJV** *And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And ELISHA said, I pray thee, let a DOUBLE PORTION OF THY SPIRIT (the portion of the FIRSTBORN, as in Deut. 21:17) be upon me...He took up also THE MANTLE (cloak) of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;*

**Luke 24:49, KJV** *And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be ENDUED (enduo – to sink into or to invest with clothing; to array) WITH POWER (dunamis – ability) from on high.*

## **TWO UNHOLY PRACTICES AMONG LEADERS**

1. Those who wear the GARMENTS of the FATHER MINISTRIES (the APOSTLES, as in 1 Cor. 4:15) UNDER THEIR OWN GARMENTS. These young men and women parade the STRENGTH, the WISDOM, and the POWER of seasoned ministries to be THEIR OWN! They proudly PREACH revelation knowledge that came from the PAIN and SACRIFICE of others. These never had a real FATHER; therefore they fail to give honor to whom honor is due; instead, they TAKE THIS HONOR UNTO THEMSELVES.

**NOTE:** This is the ABSALOM SPIRIT of rebellion.

**2 Samuel 15:4-6, KJV** *ABSALOM said moreover, Oh that I were made JUDGE in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto ME, and I would do him justice! And it was so, that when any man came nigh to him to do HIM obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him. And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the KING (David, his FATHER) for judgment: so Absalom STOLE THE HEARTS of the men of Israel (away from David).*

2. Those who wear the GARMENTS of the FATHER MINISTRIES (the APOSTLES) OVER THEIR OWN GARMENTS. These young men and women have but one MOTIVE: their OWN HIDDEN AGENDA. Not submitted to any kind of AUTHORITY, they are overtly ARROGANT and covertly CONNIVING. Without the FEAR of the Lord, they wear the ANOINTING (garment) of the FATHER as a THIEF.

**NOTE:** This is the JUDAS SPIRIT of thievery.

*Matthew 10:1-4, KJV* And when he had called unto him His twelve disciples, HE (Jesus) GAVE THEM POWER (exousia – authority) against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and JUDAS ISCARIOT, who also betrayed Him.

*Matthew 26:14-16, KJV* Then one of the twelve, called JUDAS ISCARIOT, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, WHAT WILL YE GIVE ME, and I will deliver Him unto you? And they covenanted with him for THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER. And from that time he SOUGHT OPPORTUNITY to betray Him.

**PRINCIPLE:** EVERY MINISTRY and EVERY LEADER must be CLEANSED from these TWO UNHOLY POLITICAL PRACTICES!

*Zechariah 3:3-5, KJV* Now Joshua was CLOTHED WITH FILTHY GARMENTS (soiled with excrement), and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, TAKE AWAY THE FILTHY GARMENTS from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused THINE INIQUITY (perversity, depravity) to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with CHANGE OF RAIMENT (a robe of state; mantle). And I said, Let them set a fair MITRE (turban) upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and CLOTHED HIM with GARMENTS....

**PRINCIPLE:** What **MOTIVATES** this ungodly behavior of rebellion and thievery? It is **THE LOVE OF MONEY**—heaping up **TREASURES** on **EARTH**.

*1 Timothy 6:10, KJV For **THE LOVE OF MONEY** (philarguria – to be fond of silver; avarice) is the **ROOT OF ALL EVIL** (kakos – intrinsic worthlessness; depravity, that which is base)....*

*James 5:1-2, KJV Go to now, ye **RICH MEN**, weep and howl for your **MISERIES** (calamities; hardships, troubles) that shall come upon you. Your **RICHES** are **CORRUPTED** (decayed, rotten), and **YOUR GARMENTS ARE MOTHEATEN**.*

*Matthew 6:19-21, KJV Lay not up for yourselves **TREASURES UPON EARTH** (the **NATURAL** realm, **NATURAL** riches), where **MOTH** and rust doth **CORRUPT**...But lay up for yourselves **TREASURES IN HEAVEN** (the **SPIRITUAL** realm, **SPIRITUAL** riches), where neither **MOTH** nor rust doth **CORRUPT**...For where **YOUR TREASURE** is, there will your **HEART** be also.*

## **APPLICATION: WHAT MUST WE DO?**

*1 Samuel 18:4, KJV And (Prince) **JONATHAN STRIPPED HIMSELF** (unclothe, strip off or pull off) of the **ROBE** (upper tunic of rank) that was upon him, and **GAVE IT TO DAVID** (King Jesus), and his **GARMENTS**....*

*Joel 2:13, KJV And **REND** (tear in pieces) your **HEART**, and not your **GARMENTS**, and **TURN** unto the **LORD** your God (shoob – **RETURN AGAIN**, be **RESTORED**): for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness....*

*Joel 2:13, TLB Let your remorse tear at your hearts and not your garments. **RETURN** to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful. He is not easily angered; He is full of kindness and anxious not to punish you.*

