The Floating Axe Head

2 Kings 6:1-7

1. Intro
   1. When we think of the POWER of GOD, we think of Fire From Heaven, and the Red Sea parting.
   2. We think of the epic stories and large movie sets trying to give us an image of the story.
   3. But the POWER of GOD is also seen in the small things, that he can and does work in.
2. Text
   1. Verse 1:
      1. This was a testimony to the prophet, Disciples of the Prophets were gathering in great number.
      2. Elisha was collecting more “sons” than he could account for.
      3. They were attracted to the teaching of God’s word from God’s man.
   2. Verse 2-4:
      1. Professor Elisha went with them on their request
      2. They got to work and was cutting down a tree
   3. Verse 5:
      1. The Axe head fell in the water while felling a tree
      2. That trouble was made worse because of the ownership of the axe…it was borrowed
      3. This would have been hard to get and a forger would prepare one for you, but tools were hard to come by.
   4. Verse 6:
      1. Elisha didn’t scold him for anything, but this happened BY THE POWER OF GOD
      2. Elisha then cut a stick, threw it in the water, and the head floated.
      3. There is no good reason for this other than GOD!
         1. He desires to be involved in the small and large things in our life.
         2. God can bend the rules of the physical world to accomplish His will.
   5. Verse 7
      1. The student picked up the axe head
      2. Of course he did!
      3. God just did a mighty work, that would not have been a big deal to everyone, but it was a big deal to this student!
3. Point
   1. Not all “God Things” are BIG events
      1. We use that term often…It was a God thing.
      2. Since God is sovereign ruler over all and holds all things together…its all a God thing
         1. The breath you just took is a GOD thing
         2. The heartbeat that just fired off…God thing
         3. The financial blessing that came at just the right time…God thing
         4. The timing of a job offer…God thing
         5. Finding the perfect house, car, etc…a God thing
         6. We often think of a “GOD THING” is one that shows up at just the right time, it just the right way, with a better than expected outcome.
            1. And that is true
            2. A series of circumstances that all connect together and show us God is orchestrating things.
         7. But it also a “GOD THING” when things don’t work out just as you had hoped and you learned something and grew in your faith.
            1. You learned to trust Him more
            2. You learned to trust Him longer
      3. John 1:3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
      4. Colossians 1:17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
      5. Psalm 24:1-2 The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,[a]  
             the world and those who dwell therein, 2 for he has founded it upon the seas  
             and established it upon the rivers.
   2. God really does care about the small things
      1. It may seem insignificant to us, but it was significant enough to God to make this axe head to float.
      2. God cares so much, that this was not going to slip past His mind.
      3. Think about this story:
         1. The reason for the need for a miracle…
         2. The prophet had a large following
         3. They needed a better place to live
         4. So they were going to harvest some timber and turn it into a shelter
         5. They asked Elisha to go with them.
         6. And using a borrowed axe, lost the head in the water.
         7. NOTHING MAJOR ABOUT THIS STORY
            1. Every day life
            2. Just providing a glimpse in the life of the prophet Elisha.
            3. I guess it would have been mind blowing to hang out with Elisha
         8. Elisha and Elijah
            1. Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind surrounded by chariots of fire
            2. Elisha was then given a double portion of the prophetic power and anointing.
            3. Such strange stories ensued
   3. Axe Heads do not float, except when they do
      1. They float for a reason, as with all miracles, there was a purpose.
      2. What if the plan was:
         1. The prophet had a debt, that he could not pay back with the loss of the axe.
         2. The stick covered the spot of the problem, and recovered the axe head.
         3. The stick could also be a tree or beam, representing the cross.
      3. Here is the thing:
         1. God may intervene miraculously in your life in some way, but it will be for HIS GLORY
         2. God may not intervene miraculously, but His promises are sure, and therefore can be counted on: His provision, His direction, His comfort
         3. God may not intervene because He has a plan for you to learn and grow from the experience.
         4. God may, and most likely, protects us and directs us more than we will ever know.
            1. I’m glad God hasn’t grown tired of rescuing me
            2. I know I need it and will grow out of that.
4. Close
   1. We celebrate “God Things”
   2. We serve no matter what
   3. God is always faithful
   4. And He shows His power in the big and the small things!