

Open Your Eyes and See the Lord's Army

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➤ Intro:

- **2 Ki. 6:11-17** the Arameans come to capture Elisha
 - Elisha prays and God opens his attendant's eyes to see the Lord's army - describe
- **open your eyes and see the Lord's army – see God working in your life**

➤ God doesn't fight His battles the same way man fights – open your eyes and see the Lord's army – God working around you

- **2 Ki. 6:18-21** God protects Elisha against the men wishing to take him captive
 - The king of Aram sent horsemen and charioteers to capture Elisha. When they arrived in Dothan, Elisha prayed and God blinded them. Elisha deceived them, pretending he was a man who would take them to Elisha so they could capture him, but led them to Samaria where they could have been put to death by the Israelites. Elisha prayed again and God opened their eyes, and Elisha saved them from death. This act of deception saved Elisha (2 Ki. 6:23).

- application:

- - **Eph. 6:10-18** spiritual armor to fight a spiritual fight, not physical – **not see**
 - **Jn. 18:36** Jesus to Pilate in Praetorium, kingdom not of this world or His servants would fight
- - **Matt. 6:31-34** gain victory over the physical by seeking kingdom first, cf. Gentiles, two masters
- - **1 Tim. 6:12** our fight is the fight of faith
 - **Rev. 2:10b** to stay faithful till death
 - **Jude 1:3** to contend earnestly for the faith

➤ You must be spiritual to understand God, and the way He fight His battles – open your eyes and see the Lord's army

- **2 Ki. 7:1-2** Elisha tells the king's messenger **God was going to save them** from the famine tomorrow, messenger **not believe**
- **2 Ki. 7:3-8** God saves Samaria from the Arameans' besiegement and the resulting famine
 - **The Lord caused the army of the Arameans to hear** a sound of chariots and horses, so they thought they were about to be attacked by a great army. So they fled by twilight and left everything behind and fled for their lives.
- **2 Ki. 7:9-12** king **not believe** the lepers' report - thought it was a trap
 - **2 Ki. 7:13ff** fortunately he allowed some to go and investigate, then they took the camp

- application:

- - **Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22** (all 7 churches) like first century brethren, you must be spiritually minded to understand God's working in world events
 - **illus.:** - **Rev. 19:11-21** Jesus did not literally come on a horse, but He brought Rome down spiritually, through internal decay
- - **1 Cor. 1:18-21** if you try to obtain God's blessings (e.g., salvation) through human intellect, we will reject God and his blessings, because they're not obtained through intellect but faith – **vs. 21**

➤ **You must believe to be saved, inherit God's blessings** – open your eyes and see the Lord's army – see God working around you

- **2 Ki. 7:16-20** people plunder the Aramean camp, barley and flour sold in city as Elisha prophesied, king's **royal officer died** (as prophesied) **because he didn't believe - 2 Ki. 7:1-2**

- **application:** – everything depends on our faith, and our associated actions (obedience)

➤ - **Gal. 3:26-27** (salvation) sons of God through faith, obey Jesus to be baptized - **Mk. 16:16; Acts 8:36-37**

➤ - **Col. 2:12-13** baptized, faith in the working of God

➤ - **2 Cor. 5:7** (live as Christian) walk by faith not sight – **2 Cor. 5:10, 1-6**

➤ - **2 Tim. 4:7-8** (eternal reward) keep the faith, crown of righteousness, Lord award

➤ **Inv.** – open your eyes and see the Lord's army - see God working around you

- do you believe, will you obey

- God doesn't fight His battles the same way man does

- you must be spiritual to understand God and His ways

- you must believe to inherit God's blessings