

How Shall We Do!
Part Two
2 Kings 6:13-17



Observations

- In part one of our lesson, King Ben-hadad of Syria kept trying to capture the King of Israel as he traveled in the countryside. But Elisha, God's man, would warn God's king where the enemy was, so that the king would always escape capture
- Remember, God's prophet, Elisha, was only doing his job, warning God's people of danger and destruction
- Sometimes preachers have to warn members of destructive behaviors and habits (not feel-good sermons all the time; he is charged with preaching the word in season and out of season. 2 Timothy 4:2)
- So now, after finding out that God's man, the prophet Elisha, was facilitating the King's escape, he now turned his attention to capturing Elisha, the man of God

Observations

- ▶ Also, note that there was seemingly an inability on the part of Syria to attach God's hand to Elisha's activities
- ▶ They went after Elisha, not understanding that God was working through Elisha to accomplish His purposes
- ▶ Somehow, we must seek to give God the glory for our accomplishments (Not just man or a coincidence)
 - ▶ New Salary-Don't just thank the company
 - ▶ New House-Don't just thank your own work ethic
 - ▶ If there is improvement in health-Don't just thank your genes, or your diligence in taking the proper medication
 - ▶ If you have grown in your spiritual influence, thank God for that, Philippians 2:12-13



Observations

- ▶ So the King of Syria ordered his people to go and find out where this Elisha, this *“tip man”* is, and he would capture him
- ▶ The King of Syria then sent an impressive army of chariots and fighting warriors *“by night,” under cover, to a place called Dothan, where Elisha was dwelling, and surrounded the city*
- ▶ The Bible says in verse 15 that Elisha’s servant (not knowing his impending capture) got up early the next morning and went out of the house and saw a very impressive and intimidating sight, *an army surrounding Dothan looking for one man, Elisha!*



He Immediately Ran to His Master, Elisha, and Cried Out :

“How Shall We Do?”

*This is the Question of the Ages
for Children of God*

- When things go beyond your ability to control them, you're surrounded in Dothan (your circumstances)!
- When you have to lose your leg, eye, breast, a loved one
- When your grown children decide that they know more than you about life and are not faithful to God anymore
- When your marriage partner decides to leave you
- When businesses are closing and your job is at stake
- When the Coronavirus is surrounding your state, city



Know That We Are Not Alone In The Dothans Of Our Lives!

- One comfort, in which we should joyfully cherish, is that Christ identifies with us, even in Dothan (surrounded by adversity)
- David said in Psalms 34:7, *“The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.”*
- The Lord adapts Himself to our frame of reference Hebrew 4:15-16
- God knows about Coronavirus, Habakkuk 3:5-6, speaking of God, the prophet says, *“Plague went before Him; pestilence follows His steps.”*
- So sometimes, even in our weaknesses, God condescends to us with compassion and gives us sight where our faith should have been

Observations

- On this occasion the prophet prayed to the Lord, *“Open his eyes that he might see!”*
- So God allowed the servant to see what he couldn't see; and that was an army surrounding the Syrian army, much larger than the army around Elisha and his servant (horses and chariots of fire), like the one that took up Elijah, his predecessor
- Truly could Elisha say, “They that be with us are more than they that be with them.”





Observations

- ▶ Therefore, in times of distress in our lives, let us pray that our eyes be opened to remove our fears, whether they be physical, material, social, emotional, or spiritual, and be reassured
- ▶ If we saw more (through the eyes of faith) than what appears through our senses, by understanding God's word in our earthly matters, our fears would give way to assurance
- ▶ And so in the story, as God would have it, the same power that opened the eyes of the servants, closed those of His persecutors
- ▶ I pray that God will open our eyes and increase our faith





Observations About Our Faith

“So we fix our eyes, not on what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporal, but what is unseen is eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:18

- ▶ How do we conquer what is seen but not understood (viruses, microbes, losing our jobs, losing our health or present loved ones)?

Through the Eyes Of Faith!

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report.” Hebrews 11:1,2



“By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen, were not made by things which do appear.” Hebrews 11:3

Observations

- Through faith, we have evidence that God loves us, John 3:16
- Through faith, we have evidence that God is with us until the world ends, Matthew 28:20
- Because the world is a fallen one, we WILL have problems in it, John 16:33, Romans 5:12
- Our faith in God should not be predicated on the absence of acquiring the virus, or any other problem, but the sustaining presence of Jesus, Hebrews 12:1-2
- Jesus is concerned about our eternal wellness not our temporal, earthly, wholeness 2Corinthians 5:1



Observations

- ▶ As we go through life, many times we make plans, but when our whole life is shaped around our plans, we can be so focused, that we lose sight of God; and we often create our lives around our own agenda (like the rich man in Luke 12:16-21)

“You can make plans, but the Lord’s true purpose will prevail.” Proverbs 19:21

- ▶ So the issue becomes this: Rather than trying to fit God into our plans, let’s spend our lives making sure that we fit into God’s plans

“For when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep.” Acts 13:36



Therefore, Our Question In
This Generation Should Be:

For Heaven's
Sake, What On
Earth Are We
Doing?



The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent Of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38