

2 KINGS 6:13-20 – Spiritual Reality Vs. Physical Reality! Making an Enemy a Friend!

1/11/16 CCCM Missions Conf. #3 – P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY SEE – Clair Scott – Joslin Grove Choir

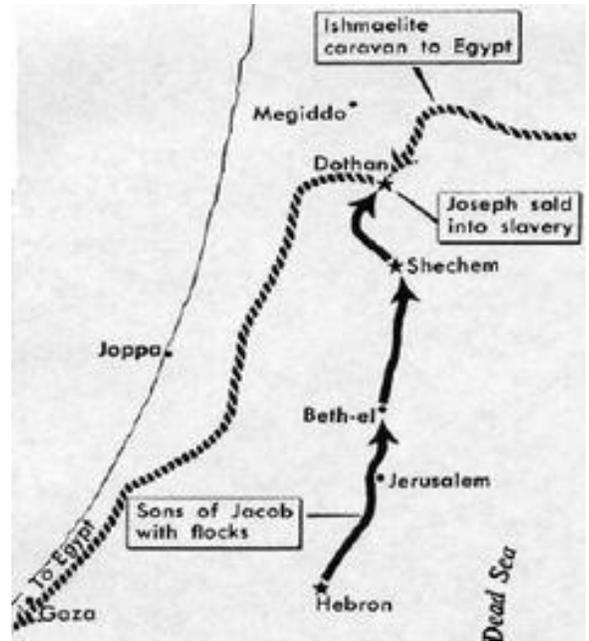
Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me; Place in my hands the wonderful key That shall unclasp and set me free.

(Refrain): Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready my God, Thy will to see, Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine! Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth Thou sendest clear; And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear. (Refrain)

Open my mouth, and let me bear, Gladly the warm truth everywhere; Open my heart and let me prepare Love with Thy children thus to share. (Refrain)

2 Kings 6:8-23 – A “Spy” in Israel; The Syrian King Disturbed:

The king of Syria was disturbed because every surprise plan he made was discovered by the king of Israel. He came to the conclusion that there was a spy in his camp and attempted to ferret out the traitor. “Which one of you is for the king of Israel?” There was no one. All of them were loyal to him. The prophet Elisha, with supernatural revelation had “bugged” even the bedroom of the king of Syria and knew everything he said. The king of Syria decided to eliminate Elisha. He first sent out those to spy out where he was and they located him in Dothan, Elisha’s headquarters about twelve miles north of Samaria. The king of Syria sent in the military and surrounded the place. The servant of Elisha goes out in the morning. He looks around and sees that the city of Dothan is surrounded by the hosts of Syria. He is alarmed! He comes back and reports to Elisha, and says to him, “*Alas, my master! What shall we do? The city is surrounded. We might just as well give up. It looks hopeless for us! What can we do under these circumstances?*”



Horses and Chariots of Fire; The Blinded Syrians Captured!

2Ki 6:8 *Now the king of Syria was making war (likely border scimmages) against Israel; and he consulted with his servants, saying, "My camp will be in such and such a place."*

2Ki 6:9 *And the man of God (Elisha, supernaturally receiving intelligence from the LORD) sent to the king of Israel, saying, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are coming down there."*

- Josephus tells us that Jehoram, King of Israel, liked to hunt wild game in the area. Every time Ben-hadad, king of Syria tried to go and capture or kill him, Elisha warned Jehoram not to go there.
- This is a great passage for politicians today. In God’s sight, they aren’t getting away with anything!

2Ki 6:10 *Then the king of Israel sent someone to the place of which the man of God had told him. Thus he warned him, and he was watchful there, not just once or twice.*

2Ki 6:11 *Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was greatly troubled by this thing (no longer having the element of surprise); and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel?"*

2Ki 6:12 *And one of his servants said, "None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom (about the most private words one could say!)."*

2Ki 6:13 *So he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and get him." And it was told him, saying, "Surely he is in Dothan." (Imagine planning a surprise attack on one who has advance knowledge from the LORD!)*

2Ki 6:14 *Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.*

2Ki 6:15 *And when the servant (probably not Gehazi) of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do? (We’re dead!)"*

2Ki 6:16 *So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."*

2Ki 6:17 *And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around*

Elisha.

- **Psa 68:17** *The chariots of God are twenty thousand, Even thousands of thousands; The Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place.*
- **The servant's spiritual eyes are opened, and his life is forever changed!** Abraham - Act 7:2 *And he said, "Brethren and fathers, listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, Isaiah - Isa 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Apostle Paul on the road to Damascus!*
- In this case, **now it is not "Alas we're doomed", but "Alas they're doomed!"**
- This is a great example for us here that **the physical reality is not the primary reality for a child of God!** Until we know the spiritual reality, we don't know what is really going on.
- There is never a **need for a child of God to fear any physical reality based on that alone!** We need to **remember at the moment of fear from the physical reality, to ask, "LORD, would You show me what You're doing.** I can't get the picture right now. **Would You show me what You're doing?**
- **With the spiritual understanding, we can wisely decide what resources to apply to the situation!**
- **Notice how the LORD accomplishes victory here for Israel over Syria!**

2Ki 6:18 *So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, and said, "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.*

- How **effective could a blind regiment of soldiers be**, even if they have many horses and chariots?

2Ki 6:19 *Now Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, nor is this the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek (the king of Israel)." But he led them to Samaria.*

2Ki 6:20 *So it was, when they had come to Samaria, that Elisha said, "LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and there they were, inside Samaria!*

2Ki 6:21 *Now when the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, "My father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?"*

2Ki 6:22 *But he answered, "You shall not kill them. Would you kill those whom you have taken captive with your sword and your bow? Set food and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master."*

- Don't kill them! **These are God's prisoners, not yours!** Set them down and **let them eat and drink!** Give them a big feast! Thank them for coming! Send my regards to Ben-hadad and let them go!

2Ki 6:23 *Then he prepared a great feast for them; and after they ate and drank, he sent them away and they went to their master. So the bands of Syrian raiders came no more into the land of Israel.*

- God's children are not to return evil for evil, but good for evil! **What a magnificent way here for eliminating an enemy by turning them into a friend!**

SUMMARY:

- **The importance of spiritual reality versus physical reality. We cannot know what is really going on, until we know the spiritual reality! What is God doing here?**
- **The physical reality is not the primary reality for a child of God!**
- **There is never a need for a child of God to fear any physical reality based on that alone!**
- **We need to remember at the moment of fear from the physical reality, to ask, "LORD, would You show me what You're doing. I can't get the picture right now. Please show me what You're doing?"**
- **Open my eyes, Lord that I may see! Then, it is not "Alas we're doomed", but "Alas they're doomed!"**
- **With the spiritual understanding, we can wisely decide how to respond to the situation!**
- **Notice how the LORD accomplishes victory here for Israel over Syria!**
- **With the LORD's help, it's so much better, simpler and easier to eliminate an enemy by making him a friend! God's children are not to return evil for evil, but good for evil!**

"Open Our Eyes, Lord – Maranatha Music

*Open our eyes, Lord We want to see Jesus To reach out and touch Him And say that we love Him
Open our ears, Lord And help us to listen Open our eyes, Lord We want to see Jesus (2X)*

Please Note: You may see/download past notes/audio of the Bible Prayer Devotionals by going to: www.ptwente.com