

NEWSLETTER 2023-4

To: My Fellow Saints and Well-Wishers

Date: August 3, 2023

Re: **Surrounded by The Enemy but God! 2 Kings 6:8-17**

“And his servant said to Him, ‘Alas, master! What shall we do?’ So he answered, ‘Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’” (2 Kings 6:15b-16 NKJV).

Beloved, there are many who either ignore or deny or become turned off with the thought of **“spiritual warfare”** but such is real and Satan continues and will continue to oppose the cause of God until he is eternally bound. Throughout the centuries, Israel have been exposed to continued attacks by their enemies and such continues to this very day; this fact I am briefly correlating with the Christian’s warfare.

We have witnessed Satan’s continued warfare and the effects are seen all around and experienced personally, or within the family, among neighbors, our fellow saints, etc.; indeed, the warfare continues but for the reality is **“Our God reigns!”** Over the months, I have witnessed so many hurting, stressed and depressed individuals; I have seen disrupted families, individuals experiencing heart attacks and other grave illness; the passing away of loved ones (in some cases more than one death in a short period); economic hardships; etc., but even then, despite these situations, **“Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness!”**

*Beloved, this is not a detailed study but my heart is stirred up!! We cannot afford to be at ease in Zion!! One of my main thoughts these days is: **“There are souls to rescue, there are souls to save and great needs within our families and our congregations!! So, with God’s anointing: to the Work to the work!!”***

In 2 King 6:1-7 we have seen Elisha providing most needed help to one of the prophets in training (read the account). In verses 8-17, we have seen him once more helping, this time (Vv. 8-23) to the interest of his nation. The servant of God was utilizing what God has blessed him with, to the profit of others and to the glory of God, not for self-interest!! **Whatever abilities anyone has of doing good, he is by those abilities made a debtor to the wise and unwise (Rom. 1:14); and our service is to ALL the needs as God will and to His honor and glory! Saints, Our Services Are Needed!!** (Prov. 3:27; 1 Cor. 12:1-11; Eph. 2:10; Phil. 2:4-8; James 2:14-17; . . . Christ’s example: Matt. 20:28; Luke 22:27; Phil. 2:7).

Our focus today is **2 Kings 6:8-17** with some brief pointers mainly on verses 15-17. I will also present my outline for Vv. 8-17. In closing, I will include a poem, laid on my heart April 10, 2023 which is based on 2 Kings 6:8-17. **May you be blessed and God glorified!!**

A. The Outline . . . 2 Kings 6:8-17.

1. Internal Plans of the Enemy Revealed Vv. 8-10.
2. Interrogation Internally Considered v. 11.
3. Investigate in Regards to Elisha's Location Vv. 12-13.
4. Incarcerating Elisha Attempted Vv. 14-15.
5. Indestructible/Invisible Army of God Vv. 16-17.

B. Brief Exposition . . . Some Highlighted Pointers.

A company of Syrians under the leadership of their king harassed Israel with commando (guerilla, terrorists, etc.) raids. Elisha, through divine revelation, frustrated them in their efforts a number of times (2 Kings 6:10) by informing the king of Israel in regards to their plans. As a result, he helped Israel to avoid traps that the enemy had in place. When the Syrian leadership knew who was responsible for revealing his secret plans, his decision was to apprehend Elisha.

This reminds us that the wicked seeks continuously how to hurt the righteous even to the point where they (the wicked) remain awake in order to devise their evil (Prov. 36:4; 4:16; etc.). The king of Syria desired to get Elisha out of the way so that his evil goals would succeed. This evil objective continues today as Satan seeks to destroy those who are wholeheartedly committed to God and thus, they pose a threat to his evil goals (1 Peter 5:8-11).

In general, **the emphasis I am making is for us to place our trust in the peace and protection that God promises through His Holy Spirit and the assurance that He will be with us in every situation – no matter the level of danger, the degree of temptation or even facing death.** For some of us when those dark days and the devastating situations seems to linger, we rarely find it easy to maintain trust in our God's promise of protection (Psa. 42:5, 11).

The passage, 2 Kings 6:8-17, teaches us the way that we need to live on a day-to-day basis. God help us to realize that there is an unseen world around us right now and may God help us to accept the facts (**Eph. 6:11 & 12**; Acts 8:7; 19:13; 1 Tim. 4:1; . . . see also Luke 4:6; Acts 2:26:18; 2 Cor. 2:11; 2 Thess. 2:9; Rev. 12:9; etc.). Beloved, we are in a spiritual battle and we fight spiritual battles with spiritual weapons!! (2 Cor. 10:1-11, **NB Vv. 3-5**).

The following are few summarized thoughts based mainly on 2 Kings 6:8-17.

Two of the Practical Pointers noted in Verse 16-17: (Some effects resulting from what we have learnt in these verses and our will to practically apply them to our lives).

1. **Lead Us to Pray for Help and Keep the Faith.**

Reading the text, it is obvious that even during those trying moments, when so often, in our limitations when we don't see God and tend to panic, yet He is there working on our behalf!!

Yet, even we earnestly pray, we need to sincerely ask:

(Each though presented without detailed discussion and with only one reference):

- (a) Help us to realize that the Holy Spirit is with us (John 14:15-18).
- (b) Help us to remember Your promise to supply all our needs (Phil. 4:19).
- (c) Help us realize that You are continuously watching over us with utmost care and you neither slumber nor sleep (Psa. 121).
- (d) Help us to realize that our warfare is not with flesh and blood and it's compulsory to be completely clothed in Your armor (Eph. 6:10-18).
- (e) Help us realize that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (2 Cor. 10:3-5).
- (f) Help us realize that it is **in Christ**, that we are more than conquerors (Rom. 8:37).
- (g) Help us realize that although we are in warfare the battle is Yours (the LORD'S) (1 Sam 17:47).
- (h) Help us to remember: LORD with you leading, even though we go through the valley of the shadow of death we need not to fear any evil (Psa. 23:4).

2. Learn and Trust That God is There for His People.

Beloved, even as Satan's hosts exist carrying out his evil; even so greater and mightier are the hosts of angels who are active in the lives of God's people (Gen. 32:2; Isa. 63:9).

Several principles may be derived.

Note some quotes from Life in the Spirit Study Bible.

- (a) *"Not only is God for His people (Rom. 8:31), but also armies of His angels stand ready to defend the believer and God's kingdom (2 Kings 6:17; Psa. 34:7).*
- (b) *All Bible-believing Christians should continually pray that God would deliver them from their spiritual blindness and open the eyes of their hearts to see more clearly the spiritual reality of God's kingdom (Luke 24:31; Eph. 1:18-21) and its heavenly hosts (Heb. 1:4).*
- (c) *God's ministering spirits are not far off, but are very close (Gen. 32:1-2), observing the actions and faith of God's children and working on their behalf (Acts 7:55-60; 1 Cor. 4:9; Eph. 3:10; 1 Tim. 5:21).*
- (d) *There is a cause-and-effect relationship in spiritual battles; the outcome of spiritual battles is determined in part by faith and prayers of the saints (2 Kings 6:16-20; Eph. 6:18-19)."*

Elisha's servant became fearful when he saw the Syrian army surrounded the mountain where they were (2 Kings 6:15); but Elisha responded, assuring him that all was well and he (Elisha) prayed to God to have his eyes opened to the wonders of the Almighty God!! (2 Kings 6:16-17).

Matthew Henry notes:

*“Fear not with that fear which has tormented and amazement (**amazement:** bewilderment, confusion. disbelief . . . insert mine), for those that are with us, to protect us, are more than those that are against us – unspeakably more numerous – God infinitely more powerful. When we are magnifying the causes of our fear, we ought to possess ourselves with clear, and great, and high thoughts of God and the invisible world. If God be for us, we know what follows, Rom. 8:31.”*

C. Poem**Encircled To Be Isolated, Deprived and Destroyed! But God!!**

Written by Bishop K. Wright, April 10, 2023

Based on 2 Kings 6:8-17

Satan our arch enemy . . . he will definitely surround,
He will do anything and everything to cut you to the ground,
Backbiting, false accusations, and all else may abound,
The enemies are determined to achieve their goals and some operate underground.

Beloved, I strongly encourage you: “In Christ be found!”
In Christ alone you can endure and go to the last round,
Even though Satan and his host continuously pound and pound,
Clothed in the whole armor of God you will, in the end be safe and sound.

Do you remember how the mighty Egyptian army was confounded?
Instead of them mercilessly destroying the Israelites, they were pounded,
They intended to return the Israelites to slavery but God had them surrounded,
With their might and great numbers, instead of being the invincible army they were impounded.

Admit the reality of all your battles; continue to depend on God, do not bow-down,
If you get weak or fall; beloved, rise up in Jesus! Do not stay down,
Beloved, those who persevere, despite your trials you will be given a crown,
What an awesome sight to behold! That numberless multitude of the redeemed, each in a white gown!!

Bishop K. Wright

April 10, 2023

Website Update (Briefly)

We have added Psalm 24, 27 Parts A and B, along with their questions and answers; as well as June’s Newsletter to the website early July (July 4th). Psalm 32 is in the initial phase but due to my first presentation that I will be making in a Rescue Mission Home and for which God has developed a simple lesson into a three-part presentation and now working on a fourth lesson

from that same chapter as a result I have made a temporary pause on Psalm 32. Hoping to have it Psalm 32 completed by August to early September . . . as God leads.

By God's grace I will continue to serve as He desires and currently this commitment requires some additional time but to His glory. I will be having my first eye surgery August 23 with the second eye in September (the first surgery is more demanding than the second). Your continued prayers are highly appreciated and thank you

The song: "I Know a Man Who Can" By George Jones
(*Has been used before but worthwhile repeating*)

I can't take a heart that's broken, Make it over again
But I know a man who can
I can't take a soul that's sin sick make it white as snow
But I know a man who can

Refrain

Some call Him Savior the Redeemer of all men
I call Him Jesus for He's my dearest friend
If you feel that no one loves you and your life is out of hand
I know a man who can

I can't walk upon the waters or calm the trouble sea
But I know a man who can
And I can't cause blind eyes to open Or make the lame to walk
But I know a man who can

This verse I have used ever so often but beloved we need to focus on it everyday because Satan is a roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8-9) and he do come as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:4) and irrespective of how he comes his objective is to steal kill and destroy (John 10:10; Luke 22:31) and none of us are exempted!!! So, I leave that special verse with you:

1 John 4:4 Amplified Bible

"Little children (believers, dear ones), you are of God and you belong to Him and have [already] overcome them [the agents of the antichrist]; because He who is in you is greater than he (Satan) who is in the world [of sinful mankind]."

It's my sincere prayers that you and your beloved family will be richly bless under God's continued care especially in times like these.

Bishop K. Wright

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