**Open Our Eyes That We May See** *2 Kings 6:8-23*

**Introduction**

1. **2 Kings 6:8-23** records a wonderful event which occurred while the king of Syria was making war against Israel.
	1. **(v. 8-10)** – King of Syria tells servants about where he will place his soldiers, and Elisha (the man of God) tells the king of Israel, who puts his troops there before Syria (takes preventative measures; more than once).
	2. **(v. 11-13)** – King of Syria was frustrated, and thought there was a traitor, but they explained that Elisha knew of what the king said in secret (given from God – prophet). King of Syria sent men to Dothan to take him.
	3. **(v. 14-17)** – Syrian army surrounded Elisha and servant in Dothan. Servant was afraid, but Elisha prayed that he might be able to see the power and protection of God which they had on their side.
	4. **(v. 18-23)** – God struck them with blindness and Elisha led them into the king of Israel’s hands. God gave Israel the victory against her enemies through His power.
2. **Christians walk by faith** – they trust in God, and see the unseen through the eyes of faith to the extent of following God obediently, and seeking to save those who are lost (**cf. 2 Corinthians 5:7-11**).
3. **Christians have an enemy** – the Devil is constantly trying to cause us to lose our faith (**cf. 1 Peter 5:8-9).**
4. **Christians have a powerful Heavenly Father** – when we cling to Him, the Devil flees **(cf. 1 John 4:4; James 4:7)**.
5. **We need to be able to see the spiritual power, and provisions of God in our lives to have the courage and ability to carry on doing that which He desires. To be victorious.** 🡪
6. Open Our Eyes That We May See…
7. The Power of God
	1. **Romans 1:20** – Power of God seen in creation.
		1. **Eternal Power** – only kind of power capable of creating something from nothing.
		2. **Godhead** – only nature that contains such power.
		3. (**v. 21-23)** – should cause us to honor Him, worship Him, serve Him, and seek Him out further – Gentiles didn’t do this, and God gave them over to a debased mind.
	2. **Romans 8:31-39** – That eternal power, and Divine Person is there for our sakes in protection and preservation.
		1. **Jude 24-25** – He is able to keep you.
		2. **This can only occur if we see and recognize His power, allowing such to strengthen our faith.**
8. The Presence of God
	1. **2 Timothy 4:16-18** – In his trial, no one stood with Paul, but the Lord did.
		1. **(v. 16)** – During the rule of Nero it was extremely dangerous to stand with Paul. To do so would be to receive severe punishment.
		2. **(v. 17)** – The Lord is always with His people, and is able to protect us. Or, if we perish, to keep our souls for eternity – which is far better.
		3. **(v. 18)** – The Lord is also with us to keep us from the spiritual dangers, and preserve us through His word.
	2. **Matthew 27:45-46** – Jesus’ cry of despair on the cross. An actual cry of victory, and faith in God.
		1. **Psalm 22:1-2, 19-21** – By the utterance of the first line, the entire Psalm was referred to.
		2. **Jesus, as the captain (archegos) of our salvation serves as an example of how God does not forsake His children. (cf. Hebrews 13:5-6 – What can man do to me?)**
		3. **Especially in spiritual trouble 🡪**
9. The Escape from Temptation Supplied by God
	1. **1 Corinthians 10:13** – God does not allow more than we can handle. Provides way of escape – always.
		1. **When temptation comes, it does not come from God, but is regulated by Him.**
		2. He won’t allow what we can’t handle, and always provides escape.
	2. **Psalm 119:11** – Seek the escape in God’s word.
	3. **Matthew 26:40-41** – Seek the escape in watchful prayer to God.
		1. Temptation would come no doubt. They were fatigued, and wanted to do what was right, but would be tempted to do wrong.
		2. Pray lest you yourself willingly ***“enter into temptation.”***
		3. Tempted when Jesus would undergo His trial. (Peter denied Him **– v. 27, Peter was there**.).
10. The Value of Eternal Life
	1. **1 Peter 1:3-9, 17-19** – Given hope of incorruptible inheritance – salvation. See the value in it! Bought with the precious blood of Christ.
		1. **We must be able to see how valuable our souls are, and how valuable our inheritance is.**
		2. Do not trade it for the temporary pleasure of sin!
		3. **Christ shed His blood that you might have salvation – it is incredibly valuable!**
	2. **Matthew 6:19-21** – See the immense value of the heavenly treasure, and begin laying up for it! Don’t choose earthly things over spiritual things!

**Conclusion**

1. As creatures of faith in Christ, we must be able to see the unseen.
	1. ***“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1).***
	2. God allows us, as He allowed Elisha’s servant, to see the unseen through faith.
2. **We must seek the things of God, and have the utmost faith in Him. He is on our side, and we shall prevail!**