

2 Kings 6:8-23

Open Our Eyes

1. War and Desperation

A. Prophetic Spy 8-13

B. Overkill 14

Farm boy turned prophet

So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, while he was plowing with twelve pairs of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth. And Elijah passed over to him and threw his mantle on him. He left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" So he returned from following him, and took the pair of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the implements of the oxen, and gave it to the people and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah and ministered to him.

1 Kings 19:19-21 NASB

"And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'" -Mark 8:34-38 ESV

2. Eyes Wide Opened

A. Seeing Sure Defeat 15

B. Seeing Who is really there 16

C. Elisha's prayer for sight

"Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord , I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the Lord opened the servant's eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha."

2 Kings 6:17 NASB

"And all flesh will see the salvation of God.'" -Luke 3:6 NASB

D. Jesus and Seeing

And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind." Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, "We are not blind too, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains. John 9:39-41 NASB

You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

Matthew 23:24 NASB

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. -James 3:16 NASB

D. Elisha Intercedes

"It may look like I'm surrounded but I'm surrounded by you"-

Surrounded - Elyssa Smith

3. What are you missing?

A. Not just a lack of willing faith

B. God's involvement in physical life

In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. -John 16:23-24 NIV

C. Elisha's taps directly in God's supernatural power in the handling of the enemy

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." -James 5:16 NASB1995

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.

Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!- Clara H. Scott

Reflection:

- 1. Are you willing to pray Elisha's prayer and direct it towards yourself?*
- 2. What is your reaction to this account? What does God need to open your eyes to today?*

Follow UP in the Word through the Week...

Monday: 1 Kings 19:19-21. What are some of the details about Elisha's calling? How would you describe his reaction to this calling?

Tuesday: Mark 8:34-38. What does Jesus call us to? How does following take on these characteristics in your life with Jesus?

Wednesday: 2 Kings 6:17. Describe what the servant saw. How does that reality square with your understanding of the support you have from the Lord Himself?

Thursday: Luke 3:6. This restates a promise from Isaiah. How has all flesh seen the salvation of the Lord because of the coming of Jesus?

Friday: John 16:23-24. How do these verses shape your prayer life? How would you explain this to someone else?

Saturday: James 5:16. This verse speaks of forgiveness and a righteous person. How do the two work together and what is the connection to a person's prayer life?