

# The Visions of God's Strength

## Summary and Goal

In the course of Elisha's ministry, the king of Syria, to the northeast, decided to wage war against Israel. But by God's grace, the Lord protected Israel through Elisha's counsel. And in response to the Syrian army's attempt to end his counsel, he demonstrated spiritual wisdom, the effectiveness of his prayers, and kindness toward his enemies. Through Elisha's ministry, the Lord opened eyes, protected His people, displayed extraordinary kindness, and crushed the pride of the Syrians. Though all humanity has displayed constant rebellion against God, He nevertheless has shown great mercy and grace in crushing pride that stony hearts would soften and turn to Him in repentance and faith.

## Session Outline

1. God's servant sees that which is unseen by others (2 Kings 6:8-16).
2. God's servant prays for the eyes of others to be opened (2 Kings 6:17-20).
3. God's servant calls for mercy and grace (2 Kings 6:21-23).

*Background Passage: 2 Kings 4–8*

## Session in a Sentence

God opens people's eyes to see the spiritual realities around them so they will trust in Him.

## Christ Connection

Elisha prayed for the eyes of others to be opened so they could see God at work around them. Likewise, Jesus came to give sight to the blind—physically and spiritually—so that they could see that He is Immanuel, God with us.

## Missional Application

Because God has opened our eyes to see the truth of the gospel, we tell everyone around us about Jesus as we pray that their eyes may be opened as well.

Date of My Bible Study: \_\_\_\_\_

# Group Time

GROUP MEMBER CONTENT

## Introduction

**FILL IN THE BLANKS:** Use the content on page 38 in the Daily Discipleship Guide (DDG), providing the answers for the blanks, to show that Bible study is a matter of pursuing the right posture and attitude before God and also one of asking the right questions.

Bible study should always involve asking good theological questions:

- 1) What does this passage teach me about **God**?
- 2) What does this passage teach me about **humanity**?
- 3) How does this passage point me to **Jesus**?

Our Bible study must also involve *prayer for illumination*. We should pray for God to open up our eyes to understand the truth of Scripture and its purpose for our lives.

**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.



What must be true about God to justify this approach to Scripture?  
(God has spoken to us in His Word; God has revealed His identity and actions in His Word; God has given us truth in His Word; God gave us His Word with the purposes of pointing us to Jesus and growing us up in our faith in Him; God desires to show us His paths for our good and His glory)

**SUMMARIZE** this session in light of the questions above.

- “*What does this passage teach me about God?*” In the following biblical story, God opened eyes to spiritual things, protected His people, and extended mercy to the enemies of His people.
- “*What does this passage teach me about humanity?*” This story depicts human rebellion and the spiritual limitations of humanity.
- “*How does this passage point me to Jesus?*” This study shows God’s redemptive work through the prophet Elisha. But we need a better Elisha to save us through providing the greater kindness of a new heart. We need a better King, one who is neither inclined to kill His enemies nor set on selfish conquests but who will rule over us in power and grace. We have these in Jesus, our true Prophet and King.

**PRAY** for *illumination*, that God would open your eyes for understanding, faith, and mission.

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*For additional teaching options and other resources, please visit [GospelProject.com/additional-resources](http://GospelProject.com/additional-resources).*

## Point 1: God's servant sees that which is unseen by others (2 Kings 6:8-16).

**READ** 2 Kings 6:8-16 (DDG p. 39).

<sup>8</sup> Once when the king of Syria was warring against Israel, he took counsel with his servants, saying, "At such and such a place shall be my camp." <sup>9</sup> But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are going down there." <sup>10</sup> And the king of Israel sent to the place about which the man of God told him. Thus he used to warn him, so that he saved himself there more than once or twice.

<sup>11</sup> And the mind of the king of Syria was greatly troubled because of this thing, and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not show me who of us is for the king of Israel?" <sup>12</sup> 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." <sup>13</sup> And he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and seize him." It was told him, "Behold, he is in Dothan." <sup>14</sup> So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

<sup>15</sup> When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" <sup>16</sup> He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

**EXPLAIN:** Use the first paragraph in the DDG (p. 39) to provide some background about the Syrian king's knowledge of the God of Israel prior to his waging war against Israel.

The king of Syria likely waged war against Israel for personal pride or the pride of his gods. But the king of Syria had heard of and witnessed God's grace: First, *God blessed the Syrians with success*. Second, *God blessed them with a miracle and an example of salvation*. Third, *God blessed them by crushing their pride*. Still the king refused to respond with repentance and faith in the God of Israel.

- First, *God blessed them with success*. Second Kings 5:1-2 says that God gave Syria victory, even on raids within Israel. Another nation, who worshiped other gods, was given military victory not by the power of their gods but by power of Yahweh. God isn't a small "god," who influences only one group of people. He rules countries, the church, and the cosmos.
- Second, *God blessed them with a miracle and an example of salvation*. Chapter 5 goes on to tell about the incredible healing of Naaman, the commander of the Syrian army, from leprosy. In verse 15, Naaman makes a great confession of faith—that there is no god in all the world except the God in Israel. Naaman's story demonstrates that God saves people from every tribe and tongue if they will believe.

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- Third, *God blessed them by crushing their pride*, which He does in 2 Kings 6:8-23, the focus of this session. God can and will humiliate people in order that they may respond to Him in faith. God humbles human beings that He might save them and use them for His glory.
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**EXPLAIN:** Use the second paragraph in the DDG (p. 39) to highlight how God began the process of humbling the Syrian king. Contrast the king's blind pride with Elisha's sight granted to him by God.

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God sought to humble the Syrian king by frustrating his war plans. The account is humorous to read as the king thinks he has a spy or traitor on his team. How else could the king of Israel know his every move? Because the all-knowing, all-seeing God passed along the information. Though many miles away, God granted Elisha the secret, unseen counsel of the Syrian king, and He also protected His servant in unseen ways, making Elisha fearless before the threat of the Syrian army sent to get him.

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- Sadly, instead of being humbled by God's frustrating work and seeking Elisha to learn more about his power and wisdom and their source—the one true God—the king grew angry and sought to seize Elisha. One wonders why he didn't assume Elisha would know of this plan also. Once again, blind pride fueled this king's futile decisions and actions.
  - The king's servants went to Dothan, where Elisha was located, and surrounded the city at night. But God was prepared to humble the king again by protecting His prophet from the Syrian army. God had given Elisha the eyes to see His unseen divine army outnumbering the raiders.
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**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.

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What does this text teach us about God's sovereignty over the nations? (God is sovereign over the nations; God can bless or frustrate the plans of any nation, regardless of their motivations; no nation's plans will succeed if the Lord is against them; even what a nation thinks is determined in secret is known to the Lord)

## Point 2: God's servant prays for the eyes of others to be opened (2 Kings 6:17-20).

**READ:** Ask a volunteer to read 2 Kings 6:17-20 (DDG p. 40).

<sup>17</sup> Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So 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. <sup>18</sup> And when the Syrians came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, "Please strike this people with blindness." So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha. <sup>19</sup> And Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, and this is not the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And he led them to Samaria.

<sup>20</sup> As soon as they entered Samaria, Elisha said, "O LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." So the LORD opened their eyes and they saw, and behold, they were in the midst of Samaria.

**EXPLAIN:** Use the first paragraph in the DDG (p. 40) to highlight God's grace at work in opening the eyes of Elisha's servant. Connect God's unseen protection of Elisha to Jesus' invisible protection by His Father, which also covers the believer. Take a few moments, incorporating some volunteers, to read the various passages from the Psalms that are referenced in this paragraph in the DDG.

Elisha saw what his servant could not see, so he prayed for the assistant's eyes to be opened to the reality of God's unseen protection surrounding them. God opens eyes for people to see His grace (Ps. 146:5-10). He also gives unseen protection to His people (Ps. 91). Jesus Himself knew and lived under the invisible protection of the Father until the hour came for His crucifixion. God is a refuge for His people to deliver them (Ps. 46:1-7; 50:14-15,23). But we need eyes to see it and hearts to believe it (Ps. 27:1-6).

- Though Jesus didn't use His Father's unseen protection in the garden of Gethsemane on the night He was arrested, He was aware of it. He rebuked one disciple's violent defense against the soldiers sent to arrest Him, saying, "Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?" (Matt. 26:53).
- Elisha also prayed for God to deal with the enemy's sight, first in blinding them so they could not capture him. He then led them on a ten-mile hike to Samaria, the capital city of Israel, where he prayed a second time for the Lord to open their eyes to their physical reality—stuck in the middle of enemy territory.

**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.



What are some ways eyes need to be opened today? (for physical healing from blindness; for believers to see and believe in God's provision and protection; for believers to grow in their knowledge of the faith and its implications; for unbelievers to see the glory of God on display in the gospel of Jesus Christ)

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**READ** the second paragraph in the DDG (p. 40), and then use the following two **Christian doctrine statements** to explain why praying for the Spirit's work is important for opening eyes to the gospel, both for salvation and sanctification.

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Our sovereign God answers prayer; He hears the cries of His saints. Allow this passage to encourage you in your prayer life. Pray for protection, pray for others, and pray for eyes to see the beauty of the gospel in Jesus Christ, both for salvation and sanctification.

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**FILL IN THE BLANKS:** Provide group members with the answers for the call-out in their DDG (p. 40).

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**Regeneration:** Takes place at the beginning of the Christian life and is the miraculous transformation, or the **new birth**, that takes place within an individual through the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. It is a work that human effort is **unable** to produce.

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**Essential Doctrine “Regeneration”:** Regeneration takes place at the beginning of the Christian life and is the miraculous transformation, or the **new birth**, that takes place within an individual through the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit (John 3:3-8; Titus 3:5). It is the divine side of conversion (a person turning to Christ in repentance and faith), being the work of God within a person's life that causes him or her to be born again, a work that human effort is **unable** to produce.

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**FILL IN THE BLANKS:** Provide group members with the answers for the call-out in their DDG (p. 40).

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**Work of the Holy Spirit in Life of the Christian:** The Spirit's work in the life of a Christian begins in the work of **salvation** in bringing a person to faith in Christ and is continued through the work of **sanctification** in helping the Christian to become progressively more like Christ throughout the course of his or her life.

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**Essential Doctrine “Work of the Holy Spirit in Life of the Christian”:** The Spirit's work in the life of a Christian begins in the work of **salvation** in bringing a person to faith in Christ and is continued through the work of **sanctification** in helping the Christian to become progressively more like Christ throughout the course of his or her life. He also empowers and indwells believers, intercedes on their behalf, and equips them with special gifts for the service of God's kingdom. He is the Comforter to the believer and aids us in properly interpreting the Bible.

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### Point 3: God's servant calls for mercy and grace (2 Kings 6:21-23).

**READ** 2 Kings 6:21-23 (DDG p. 41).

<sup>21</sup> As soon as the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, “My father, shall I strike them down? Shall I strike them down?” <sup>22</sup> He answered, “You shall not strike them down. Would you strike down those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master.” <sup>23</sup> So he prepared for them a great feast, and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the Syrians did not come again on raids into the land of Israel.

**EXPLAIN:** Use the first paragraph in the DDG (p. 41) to highlight the intended results of God's actions through Elisha in this encounter: slaying the pride of the Syrian king and showing Himself as the real King of all the earth.

Elisha instructed the king of Israel to show mercy and grace to the Syrian army. Imagine the Syrian king's reaction: “Did you capture Elisha? Did you slay him?” “No, he captured us, fed us a feast, and let us go!” God was slaying the pride of the king, showing him the folly of opposing the real King of all the earth and His prophet.

- In the great feast prepared for the Syrian army, Israel's enemies, we see the principles behind Matthew 5:43-45 and Romans 12:18-21 at work, perhaps pointing ahead toward a future fulfillment in God's kingdom.
- Psalm 2 communicates the idea that opposition to the King of all the earth is utter folly: God laughs at the earthly kings who make plots against Him (Ps. 2:1-4).

**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.



What are some ways in which the world responds to enemies? (in anger; with hatred; an eye for an eye; do unto others as they have done unto you; being passive aggressive; with hurtful words; with violence; with murder)

**EXPLAIN:** Use the second paragraph in the DDG (p. 41) to explain God's purposes in treating enemies with patient kindness—that enemies would turn to Him in repentance and faith and be saved. Do stress God's holiness along with His grace: The Lord always honors repentance and faith with grace, but He will by no means clear the guilty in their defiance, despite granting them temporal displays of mercy and kindness. Be clear that all acts of God's grace are intended to move us to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whom God provided to bring forgiveness to His enemies.



Why would God, the King of all the earth, treat His enemies like this? He gives living examples of His supremacy, power, and transforming grace to humble the proud so they will turn to Him. The God who protected Elisha, His servant, and Israel would have protected Syria also, if they had sought refuge in Him. The shelter of God is available to all who turn to Him in repentance and faith. But despite the Lord's patient kindness, the Syrian king refused to bow the knee to Yahweh.



## Voices from Church History

“Our calling is a different calling: it is to exhibit God and His character, by His grace, in this generation. We need to show Him forth as personal, as holy, and as love. It is possible in the flesh to be both orthodox and dead—or loving and compromising. What is not possible in the flesh is simultaneously to exhibit both the justice of God and the love of God—this can only be done through the work of the Holy Spirit.”<sup>1</sup>

—Francis Schaeffer  
(1912-1984)

- *How does God humble people today?* He gives us His Word (Isa. 66:2). He reveals His glory in creation. Sometimes we're humbled under the weight of a crisis, a crisis that should make us cry out to God. Sometimes it's the consequences of living in ongoing sin that humbles people, which leads them to bow to God in repentance (Ps. 107:10-16). Finally, God may also use the kindness of Christians—or even our supposed enemies—to humble us. These are all acts of God's grace intended to move us to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

**INSTRUCT:** Encourage group members to use the scale in their DDG (p. 41) to evaluate their typical attitude toward their enemies.

How do you tend to treat those whom you consider enemies?



Outright Hostility

Passive Aggression

Patient Kindness

**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.



Why should we strive, in the Lord's strength, to show patient kindness to our enemies? (God shows patient kindness to His enemies to lead them to repentance and faith; so we reflect the kindness of our Savior, who has shown kindness and grace to us in our sin; to open doors for gospel conversations with those who need to hear the good news about Jesus; to honor the God who has saved us by grace through faith)



# My Mission

**EXPLAIN:** This story displays many glorious attributes of God. It also provides a picture of human rebellion and sin. Despite all the overtures of God's grace to the king of Syria, the king hardened his heart against God. When God shows us grace and mercy, let's be quick to respond with humble faith. Let's pray for eyes to see the wonders of God's grace in Scripture and in our daily lives, and let's respond rightly to that grace with faith and obedience resulting in mission.

**READ** the following missional application statement in the DDG (p. 42), and encourage group members to choose at least one of the options below as a way to respond to the truth of God's Word.

Because God has opened our eyes to see the truth of the gospel, we tell everyone around us about Jesus as we pray that their eyes may be opened as well.

- **What are some ways you need to express faith in the God who opens eyes to see His grace?**
- **How can your group and church show kindness and hospitality to those outside the faith, including enemies of the faith?**
- **Who will you be praying for that their eyes may be opened to see the beauty of Christ in the gospel as you share it?**

## Voices from the Church

"Humans have been unable to open their own eyes, spiritually, since Adam hid behind the tree in hopes that his hiding from God could save him from God. We've all become very creative at trying to make ourselves see, but we will never succeed ... [God] will always be doing what no one can: be God. The God who does the miraculous. And we can be sure that the salvation of a sinner is the greatest miracle the world could ever see."<sup>2</sup>

—Jackie Hill Perry

**CLOSE IN PRAYER:** Father, thank You for continuing to open eyes. Without Your grace, we would still be blind in our sin. Embolden us to proclaim the gospel to those around us and to the ends of the earth, confident in the Spirit's power to change stubborn hearts and to open blind eyes to see the beauty of Your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**PACK ITEM 5: GOD IS WITH US:** Cut out these bookmarks and pass them out to group members to remind them that even when circumstances seem to say otherwise, God is with us and we need not fear.

**INSTRUCT:** As your group departs, encourage group members to read and respond to the **Daily Study** devotions in their DDG (pp. 43-45), which build and expand upon the group study. Also advocate for small groups or families to use **Encourage One Another** (p. 46) for mutual accountability and fellowship grounded upon the foundation of God's Word.

# Daily Discipleship

Throughout the week following the session, use the ideas below to remind and encourage your group members to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. The **Daily Study** devotions in the DDG (pp. 43-45) will help group members get into God's Word and study it for themselves. **Encourage One Another** (p. 46) will help group members and families fellowship with one another with purpose.

## Daily Study

Brief daily devotions in the DDG (pp. 43-45) will help group members take initiative in their own discipleship.

- Make sure all group members have access to a Bible to read. Have some Bibles available to give to guests who may need one, or offer to get one and arrange a time to meet to give it and show how to navigate it for the devotions.
- Share the following idea from the devotion for **Day 3** as a part of point 3 in the session: **When it comes to proclaiming the gospel, we must pray for God to open eyes and transform hearts if anyone is to repent and believe.**



Consider leading by example and reading the daily devotions yourself with your own DDG. Based on your study, use brief messages throughout the week (group text, email, social media) to encourage your group to keep up with their daily time in God's Word and to live it out. Here are a couple of examples you can use:

- **Day 1: "God cares about world events, and He cares about giving us daily bread."**
- **Day 5: "God takes unbelief seriously and puts it to shame as He brings to pass His plans and purposes in the world."**



Visit [www.GospelProject.com/Blog](http://www.GospelProject.com/Blog) for additional content and resources you can use to help group members gain more insight into their daily studies. Send group members a link or a portion of a blog post or other content that you believe will be helpful and encouraging for their time in God's Word.

## Encourage One Another

This brief plan for fellowship and accountability in the group member's DDG (p. 46) will help groups of 2-4 people to meet sometime during the week to reflect on the session and to share how God is working and they are responding. It could also be used for family discipleship with students and children who are using *The Gospel Project* in their groups.

- **Encourage group members to invite one another to identify potential blindspots in each other's lives.**
- See yourself as a member of the group who also needs encouragement in the faith, and participate in such a group this week.

# Additional Commentary

## **Point 1: God's servant sees that which is unseen by others (2 Kings 6:8-16).**

“Without anyone telling him, Elisha had known about Gehazi’s lie (5:20-27), and he likewise knew about the movements of the Aramean camp. Having properly identified the problem, the king of Aram sent **an army with horse and chariots** to capture Elisha (v. 15). Despite this sizeable force, the prophet encouraged his servant not to fear because they were in fact well-protected by **horses and chariots of fire** (v. 17). A ‘chariot of fire with horses of fire’ had also taken Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind (2:11). In both passages, God’s superior spiritual forces encourage trust in him. Elisha had prayed for God to open his servant’s eyes to the horses and chariots of fire (v. 17), and now he prayed for the Arameans to be struck with blindness. Later he would pray for their eyes to be opened again (see v. 20).”<sup>3</sup>

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“The Arameans became very frustrated, because it appeared that the Israelites always anticipated their movements. The king became convinced that one of his officers must be a traitor who was revealing his plans to the enemy (**6:8-11**). But he was wrong. It was God who was revealing their plans to Elisha, who would then issue warnings to the king of Israel. The Aramean officers informed their king of what Elisha was doing (**6:12**). Determined to put an end to this, the king sent an army with chariots and horses to capture Elisha (**6:13-14**). But this attempt would be no more successful than Ahaziah’s attempt to arrest Elijah (1:9-12). If Elisha knew all the king’s plans, he must have known of the army coming to arrest him. But he was not disturbed and remained calmly in Dothan. His servant, on the other hand, was overcome with fear when he saw the encircling troops and cried out, *What shall we do?* (**6:15**). The reason Elisha could remain calm was that he knew that God’s army, who were on his side, were not only more in number but also more powerful than the Aramean forces. He prayed for the eyes of his servant to be opened so that he could see that they were surrounded by a protective army of horses and chariots of fire—the army of the Lord (**6:16-17**). It may have been one of these same chariots that had appeared when Elijah was taken away (2:11). The Lord’s army was there not to fight for the whole of Israel but specifically for Elisha and his servant. Elisha must have understood the truth ‘if God is for us who can be against us?’ (Rom. 8:31).”<sup>4</sup>

## **Point 2: God's servant prays for the eyes of others to be opened (2 Kings 6:17-20).**

“The Aramean army, which has blindly followed the king’s orders, is struck by a second blindness (**6:18**). This may have been a dazed condition rather than complete physical blindness. They can still see well enough to follow the prophet to Samaria (**6:19**). What a scene it must have been—a great foreign army with chariots and horses hypnotically following a prophet for eleven kilometres (seven miles) to the Israelite capital (**6:20**)!”<sup>5</sup>

“**the LORD opened the eyes of the young man.** The angelic armies have been there all along, but they are invisible to Elisha’s servant until the Lord enables him to see them (cf. 2:11; also Num. 22:31; Luke 2:13; Col. 1:16). **the mountain was full.** Syrian troops may surround (Heb. *sabab*) the city (2 Kings 6:15), but Elisha himself is supported **all around** (Heb. *sabib*) by the army of the Lord. **blindness.** Probably not a loss of physical sight (since the Syrians would not doubt their location just because they could no longer physically see it), but rather a dazed mental condition in which they are open to suggestion and manipulation but still able to follow the prophet to Samaria. The Syrians are ‘bedazzled’ and do not ‘see’ things clearly, whereas Elisha’s servant has been given perfect clarity of ‘sight’ about reality.”<sup>6</sup>

### **Point 3: God’s servant calls for mercy and grace (2 Kings 6:21-23).**

“Several authorities argue that killing prisoners was not a common practice (but see 1 Kings 11:16). Elisha’s prohibition against killing the Arameans carried the implicit message that God had given this victory. There is no contradiction between this episode and the one just following. Since God’s lessons fell on hardened hearts, it was inevitable that war would be resumed. The miraculous capture and release of the Aramean army did produce a brief period of peace between the weakened Israelites and the dominant Arameans. But in terms of God’s larger purpose of witnessing through miraculous works, they were ineffective for both the Israelites and the Arameans. God’s great works can be effective, but the impact of God’s truth is determined more by the attitude of hearts than by the wonderment of miracles.”<sup>7</sup>

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“Not content with protection for himself, Elisha provides safety for all Israel. God strikes the Syrian army with blindness at Elisha’s request, thus allowing the prophet to lead them to Samaria, about twelve miles north of Dothan. Though Israel’s king could exterminate these troops, Elisha counsels leniency, so the Israelites feed the Syrians and send them home, obviously humbled. In effect, then, Elisha brings peace through divine intervention. Everyone concerned receives safety from their enemies because of the prophet’s ministry. Again Elisha aids those in distress over ‘small’ matters, such as a lost axhead, and those concerned with larger, societal issues such as war.”<sup>8</sup>

### References

1. Francis Schaeffer, *The God Who Is There*, in *The Francis A. Schaeffer Trilogy* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1990), 167.
2. Jackie Hill Perry, *Gay Girl, Good God* (Nashville, TN: B&H, 2018), 146.
3. *Worldview Study Bible* (Nashville, TN: B&H, 2018), 426, n. 6:8-12; n. 6:15-17; n. 6:18.
4. Musa Gotom, “1 and 2 Kings,” in *Africa Bible Commentary*, gen. ed. Tokunboh Adeyemo (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006), 449.
5. Havilah Dharamraj, “2 Kings,” in *South Asia Bible Commentary*, gen. ed. Brian Wintle (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2015), 450-51.
6. Iain W. Provan, “1 and 2 Kings,” in *ESV Study Bible* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008), 655, n. 6:17; n. 6:18.
7. Andrew C. Bowling, “1, 2 Kings,” in *CSB Study Bible* (Nashville, TN: B&H, 2017), 563, n. 6:21-23.
8. Paul R. House, *1, 2 Kings*, vol. 8 in *The New American Commentary* (Nashville, TN: B&H, 2003) [Wordsearch].