

#### Elijah/Elisha Refresher...

- 8 Elisha was Elijah's successor
- Elisha committed himself to continue the ministry of Elijah and the war on idol worship
- Elisha's ministry foreshadows the ministry of Christ heavily
- Sermons in this series can be found at: <u>www.gcalliance.org</u>

**The Invisible Army** The Story... 2 Kings 6:8-23 **Value** Israel still pursuing idols (Baal) Elisha is well-known world-wide at the time of this story <sup>8</sup> Tension between Israel and Syria has continued to escalate but not yet at war King of Syria very irritated at Elisha as his plans are continually foiled by Elisha's fore-sight

## **The Invisible Army The Story... 2 Kings 6:8-23**

<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." <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.

<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.

#### **Themes of the Story**

- 1. Kings and nations are never really in control of God's people. Only God is.
  - 8 Governments and earthly powers are a joke compared to fiery horses and chariots of God
  - 8 Is 40... Just how big is our God?
- 2. "Fear not..."
  - 8 God's people have no reason to fear as God ultimately oversees time and history.
  - 8 God is not absent
  - **8** Good and evil are not equal adversaries



**The Application** 

**8** Faith

**8** Trust

**Courage** 

