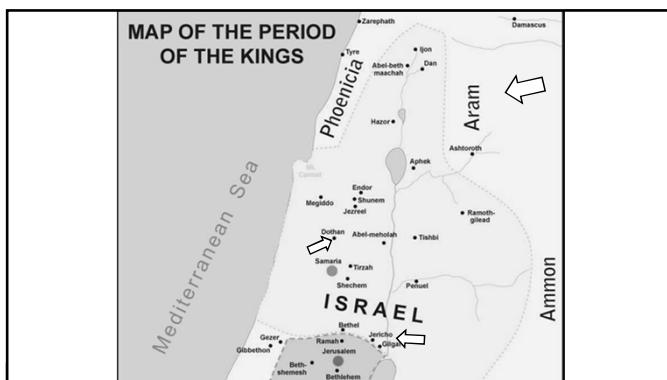




2 Kings 6:1-23



2 Kings 6:1-23

¹ Now the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "Behold now, the place before you where we are living is too limited for us. ² Please let us go to the Jordan and each of us take from there a beam, and let us make a place there for ourselves where we may live." So he said, "Go." ³ Then one said, "Please be willing to go with your servants." And he answered, "I shall go." ⁴ So he went with them; and when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. ⁵ But as one was felling a beam, the axe head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, "Alas, my master! For it was borrowed." ⁶ Then the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" And when he showed him the place, he cut off a stick and threw it in there, and made the iron float. ⁷ He said, "Take it up for yourself." So he put out his hand and took it.

2 Kings 6:1-23

⁸ Now the king of Aram was warring against Israel; and he counseled with his servants saying, "In such and such a place shall be my camp." ⁹ The man of God sent word to the king of Israel saying, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Arameans are coming down there." ¹⁰ The king of Israel sent to the place about which the man of God had told him; thus he warned him, so that he guarded himself there, more than once or twice.

¹¹ Now the heart of the king of Aram was enraged over this thing; and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you tell me which of us is for the king of Israel?" ¹² One of his servants said, "No, 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."

2 Kings 6:1-23

¹³ So he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and take him." And it was told him, saying, "Behold, he is in Dothan."

¹⁴ He sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

¹⁵ Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" ¹⁶ So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷ 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 6:1-23

¹⁸ When they came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, "Strike this people with blindness, I pray." So He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. ¹⁹ Then Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, nor is this the city; follow me and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And he brought them to Samaria.

²⁰ When they had come into 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.

2 Kings 6:1-23

²¹ Then the king of Israel when he saw them, said to Elisha, "My father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?" ²² He answered, "You shall not kill *them*. Would you kill those 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." ²³ So he prepared a great feast for them; and when they had eaten and drunk he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the marauding bands of Arameans did not come again into the land of Israel.

God's Sovereign Provision

1. Elisha's Provision for the Remnant

- the "sons of the prophets" represent the believing remnant in idolatrous Israel
- this miracle shows the Lord's provision for an ordinary, genuine, individual need

God's Sovereign Provision

2. Elisha's Provision for the Nation

- Elisha, not the king, is the true guardian of the nation
- Elisha is part of Yahweh's supernatural army ("horses and chariots of fire")

God's Sovereign Provision

➤ Application to Believers

"Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." (v. 16)

God's Sovereign Provision

➤ Psalm 91

- ¹⁰ No evil will befall you,
Nor will any plague come near your tent.
¹¹ For He will give His angels charge concerning you,
To guard you in all your ways.
¹² They will bear you up in their hands,
That you do not strike your foot against a stone.

God's Sovereign Provision

2. Elisha's Provision for the Nation

- Aram's blindness pictures the futility and folly of the nations against Yahweh

God's Sovereign Provision

3. Elisha's Provision for the Enemies

- instead of death, Gentile enemies are granted life and abundance
- Aram is made to "see" – they were under the protection of Yahweh's prophet

pictures the salvation of spiritually blind nations

God's Sovereign Provision

➤ Jesus: One Greater than Elisha

- He was willingly taken away to death in order that He might save His enemies