

A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

2 Kings 6:8-23

From Pastor Phillip

In 2 Kings 6:8-23, God provides a “look behind the scenes,” as he allows Elisha and his servant to see the invisible chariots of fire which outnumber the Syrian army. God does not typically grant such visions of the spiritual realities all around us. However, God inspires this historical event to be recorded in Scripture to build our trust in his omniscience and omnipotence. God always has the power to protect his people and control his enemies for the sake of his glory.

I. Trust in Your All-Knowing God (vv. 8-14)

- A. God knows the secret plans of nations (vv. 8-10, Psalm 33:10)
- B. God knows the secret thoughts of men (vv. 11-14, Psalm 44:21)

II. Rest in Your All-Powerful God (vv. 15-19)

- A. God has power to protect his people (vv. 15-17, Matthew 26:53)
- B. God has power to control his enemies (vv. 18-19)
- C. God has power to answer prayer (vv. 17-19)

III. Praise Your All-Merciful God (vv. 20-23)

- A. God grants mercy to his enemies to give time for repentance (vv. 20-22)
- B. God grants mercy to his people to give a time of rest (v. 23)

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

1. How is God’s omniscience (God knows everything perfectly) both comforting and scary? Read Psalm 139:1-6, 23-24. How should we respond to God’s omniscience?
2. Read 2 Kings 8:16. What present or future fears and anxieties do you have? How does this passage minimize your fears and increase your confidence in God?
3. Read 2 Kings 6:17. As cool as this vision is, do we always need to see visions of invisible chariots of fire in order to trust God? Why or why not?
4. How has God shown you mercy? How can you praise God for his acts of mercy?
5. How can you apply this passage to your life this coming week?

FOR NEXT TIME—2 Kings 6:24-7:20, *Shock and Awe*