

# Open Our Eyes When We are in Spiritual Warfare 2 Kings 6:8-24

2Ki.6:8-**17-18-24** Seeing beyond the visible! in spiritual warfare What did the Syrian King mean by: "Will you not show me who of us is for the king

of Israel?"

A servant told him: "but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom." Which tells us what? What did the Syrian king do to "seize him."?

6:15 Reveals Elisha has a new servant! But he was in fear for his life! Why? Elisha said what the Bible often says, "Do not be afraid".

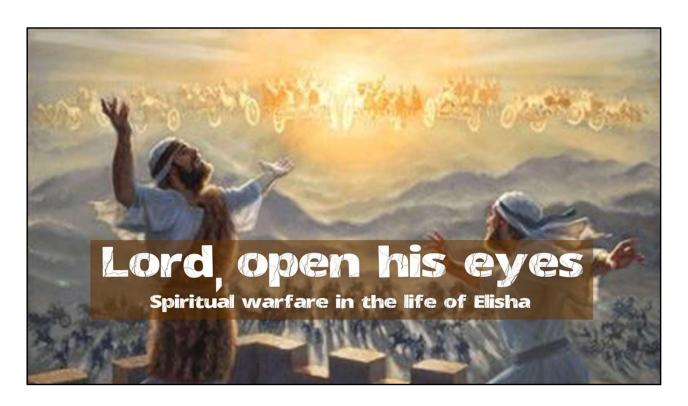
A common "christian creed" is that there are 365x the bible says "Do not be afraid", is that true?

And Why can God tell us to NOT be afraid, is this another simple overrated platitude?

Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." What did he see?

Then Elisha prayed against the Syrian army: "Please strike this people with blindness."

What are the practical lessons of this for us? What do verses 23-24 teach us?



See the Enemy below, the Lords Army above!

## We walk by faith and Not by Sight!

- Germ Theory and Ignaz Semmelweis 1850s
- Ever watch an Omnimax movie? VR Headrets
- Mirror therapy for the limbless
- Pretend cracks on glass bridge
- Military strategy often uses deception
- We are TOO dependent on our eyes!

https://www.tiktok.com/@upd\_sus999/video/6864124762235342081

https://youtu.be/Oo0NJsr5m4I

[2Co 5:6-8 ESV]

6 <u>So we are always of good courage</u>. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,

7 for we walk by faith, not by sight.

8 **Yes, we are of good courage**, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

[Heb 13:6 ESV] 6 So we can **confidently** say, "The Lord is my helper; **I will not fear; what can man do to me?**" courage = boldness, confidence

Yes, doctors and therapists often use mirrors as part of mirror therapy to help individuals with missing limbs, primarily those experiencing phantom limb pain. This technique creates a visual illusion that can trick the brain and alleviate pain and other sensations. https://youtu.be/6Vkb2iz5Ue0 <a href="https://youtu.be/1ytw4GMz88Y">https://youtu.be/1ytw4GMz88Y</a>

### **Germ Theory**

Ignaz Semmelweis, a Hungarian physician, is recognized as a pioneer of antiseptic procedures, particularly advocating for handwashing in medical settings. In the mid-19th century, he observed a significantly higher mortality rate from puerperal fever (childbed fever) in the hospital ward where medical students trained compared to the ward attended by midwives. Semmelweis concluded that medical students were likely transmitting "cadaverous particles" from autopsies to patients, causing the infection. He implemented a handwashing protocol using a chlorinated lime solution, which drastically reduced mortality rates in his clinic. Despite compelling evidence, Semmelweis faced resistance from the medical community, who found it difficult to accept that their practices could contribute to patient deaths. His work laid crucial groundwork for infection control, even though the full scientific explanation for germ theory would come later through the work of figures like Louis Pasteur.

Prior to 1823, about 1 in 100 women died in childbirth at the Vienna Hospital. But after a policy change mandated that medical students and obstetricians perform autopsies in addition to their other duties, the mortality rate for new mothers suddenly

after a policy change mandated that medical students and obstetricians perform autopsies in addition to their other duties, the mortality rate for new mothers suddenly jumped to 7.5%. What was going on? Eventually, the Vienna Hospital opened a second obstetrics division, to be staffed entirely by midwives. The older, First Division, to which Semmelweis was assigned,

was staffed only by physicians and medical students. Rather quickly it became apparent that the mortality rate in the first division was much higher than the second. Remember that at this time, the general belief was that bad odors – miasma – transmitted disease. It would be two more decades at least before germ theory – the idea that microbes cause disease – gained traction.

Semmelweis cracked the puerperal fever mystery after the death of his friend and colleague, pathologist Jakob Kolletschka. Kolletschka died after receiving a scalpel wound while performing an autopsy on a woman who'd died of puerperal fever. His autopsy revealed massive infection from puerperal fever.

Contagiousness now established, Semmelweis concluded that if his friend's "general sepsis arose from the inoculation of cadaver particles, then puerperal fever must originate from the same source. ... The fact of the matter is that the transmitting source of those cadaver particles was to be found in the hands of students and attending physicians."

No midwives ever participated in autopsies or dissections. Students and physicians regularly went between autopsies and deliveries, rarely washing their hands in between. Gloves were not commonly used in hospitals or surgeries until late in the 19th century. https://theconversation.com/ignaz-semmelweis-the-doctor-who-discovered-the-disease-fighting-power-of-hand-washing-in-1847-135528

**Joseph Lister** a British surgeon, revolutionized surgery by introducing **antiseptic practices**, based on <u>Louis Pasteur's</u> work on the germ theory of disease. He proposed that infection in surgical wounds was caused by germs from the air and surroundings. Lister started using carbolic acid (phenol) to disinfect instruments,

surgical wounds, and bandages, leading to a marked decrease in infections and mortality rates. His methods laid the foundation for modern surgical hygiene and infection control.



# that you may be able to withstand in the evil day

- The king of Syria is warring again in Israel
- Just a chapter ago, God healed Naaman/Syrian!
- A few chapters ago God kicked Syria's butts!
- BUT...the man of God sen word to the king of Israel

[Eph 6:12 ESV] 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

[Eph 6:13 ESV] 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

There will always be enemies! Unfortunately.

Jhn 15:18-20 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.

[2Ki 6:8 ESV] 8 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." Elisha took counsel with the Lord!

"Beware...do not pass this place..don't go down". <u>Avoid Warfare as much as</u> Possible! It's the reason for Peace thru Strength!

[1Ki 20:28 ESV] 28 And a man of God came near and said to the king of Israel, "Thus says the LORD, 'Because the Syrians have said, "The LORD is a god of the hills but he is not a god of the valleys," therefore I will give all this great multitude into your hand, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

[2Ki 6:10 ESV] 10 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**.

[Amo 3:7 ESV] 7 "For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.

[lsa 29:15 ESV] 15 Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" [Jer 23:23-24 ESV] 23 "Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? 24 Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. [Dan 2:22 ESV] 22 he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him.

[Ecc 10:20 ESV] 20 Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king, nor in your bedroom curse the rich, for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter.

[2Ki 6:11 ESV] 11 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?" (**Naaman?**)

Ro 8:31-32 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

[Num 14:9 ESV] 9 Only do not rebel against the LORD. And <u>do not fear</u> the people of the land, for they are bread for us. <u>Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them."</u>

[Jos 10:42 ESV] 42 And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

[1Sa 14:6 ESV] 6 Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by few." [1Sa 17:45-47 ESV] 45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know

that there is a God in Israel, 47 and that all this assembly may know that the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hand."

[Psa 27:1-3 ESV] 1 Of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. 3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

[Psa 118:6 ESV] 6 The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

[Isa 50:7-8 ESV] 7 But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. 8 He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

[Isa 54:17 ESV] 17 no weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD and their vindication from me, declares the LORD."

[Jer 1:19 ESV] 19 They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, declares the LORD, to deliver you."

[Jer 20:11 ESV] 11 <u>But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.</u>

[1Jo 4:4 ESV] 4 <u>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for</u> he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

# that you may be able to withstand in the evil day

- "the king of Syria was greatly troubled...Will you not show me who of us is for the king of Israel?"
- Romans 8:31 "If God is for us, who can be against us?"



### **Irrational Hate and Evil = insanity!**

- Epic previous Losses 1 Kings 20 x2!
- Astounding undeserved Grace Naaman and...
   Romans 2:4

Irrational Hate and Evil!! WHY, WHY, Why? Does there need to be war?! Ja.4 The Syrians just kept hurting themselves!!

This is Satanically driven against the people of God and the Work of God!

**Omniscient God informing Elisha the Prophet?!!** 

- If God warned Elisha to warn the King of Israel to Avoid the king of Syria,
   Why would the King of Syria think he can capture Elisha?
- If God crushed Syria to prove he is God, in the past, Why Would this king think he can now prove the opposite? 1Ki.20:28 "you shall know I AM the Lord!"
- If God has shown astounding power and kindness to heal leprosy, why chose to oppose Him?

"The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result." There is no proof einstein said it! But its still true!

Albert Einstein (1879–1955)

[Rom 2:4 ESV] 4 Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that **God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance**?

[2Ki 5:8, 15 ESV] 8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel." ... 15 Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant."

[Jos 2:11 ESV] 11 And <u>as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath.</u>

[1Ki 18:36 ESV] 36 And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word.

[Isa 43:11 ESV] 11 I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior. [Isa 45:6 ESV] 6 that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.

[1Ki 18:37 ESV] 37 Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back."

[1Ki 20:13 ESV] 13 And behold, a prophet came near to Ahab king of Israel and said, "Thus says the LORD, Have you seen all this great multitude? Behold, I will give it into your hand this day, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

[1Ki 20:28 ESV] 28 And a man of God came near and said to the king of Israel, "Thus says the LORD, 'Because the Syrians have said, "The LORD is a god of the hills but he is not a god of the valleys," therefore I will give all this great multitude into your hand, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

[Mat 12:30 ESV] 30 Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

[Gen 37:17 ESV] 17 And the man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan." So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

## Irrational Hate and Evil = insanity!

- Omniscient God informing Elisha the Prophet?!!
  - If God was already warning Jehoram thru Elisha, why/how?
  - If God worked Miracles before for Israel, why/how?
  - If God showed you grace/kindness, why oppose Him?
- Matthew 12:30 "Whoever is not with me is against me" – Jesus!



### Rev.19 preview!

Rev 19:11-19 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. 13 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. 14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. 15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. 17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great supper of God, 18 to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great." 19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.

### **Previous Encounters**

- Elijah <u>hacked</u> 450 Prophets to death
  - 1 Kings 18:20, 40
- Elijah called fire from heaven on 50 soldiers 2x
  - 2 Kings 2:10
- Elisha called She bears to eat 42 youths
  - 2 Kings 2:24

God grants victories! But usually in different ways! **He is predictably** unpredictable!

1 Ki.18 - 850 prophets killed by sword

2 Ki.2:10, 12 Fire on Soldiers

2 Ki.2:24 She bears

2Ki.3:22-27 Moab

2 Ki.6 Elisha captures an Army with blindness and Heavenly backup!

2 Ki.6:24, 7:6, 8:10 **Syria's** desertion at sound of Battle/**Chariots** 

[2Ki 7:6 ESV] 6 For the Lord had made the army of the Syrians hear the sound of chariots and of horses, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, "Behold, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to come against us."

[2Ki 8:7, 10 ESV] 7 Now Elisha came to Damascus. Ben-hadad the king of Syria was sick. And when it was told him, "The man of God has come here," ... 10 And Elisha said to him, "Go, say to him, 'You shall certainly recover,' but the LORD has shown me that he shall certainly die."

[2Co 10:4 ESV] 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

### **Previous Encounters**

- Elisha prophesies the wipeout of Moab!
  - 2 Kings 3:22-27
- Elisha captures an entire Army, w/o a physical weapon
  - 2 Kings 6
- Elisha will prophesy Syria's defeat and king's death
  - 2 Kings 7:6



2Ki 6:14-18 So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 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?" 16 He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 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. 18 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.

- 1. Notice, Elisha was not preinformed of this sneak attempt to capture him, when God did give him heads up for the Israel King
- 2. Before Elisha prayed, Gods Armies were Already in Place!!!
- 3. The Angel army held the high ground in the Mountains behind the Syrian
- 4. The Syrians "Came Down Against him!"
- 5. God never used His Army to win the day, he gave the victory to Elisha himself, 1 man captured the army sent to capture him!!! By a prayer for blindness!

Tell the story of when I stood up to some bullies and didn't know my friends were standing behind me!

### "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"

- The Miracle seeing God's angelic army at the ready!
- There is a Superior 'Spiritual' Realm!!
- The Angel Army never engaged??! Did Syrians know?
- Faith invited the miracles Elisha was not afraid!

### Ponder the Miracle(s)!

[2Ki 6:15-16 ESV] 15 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?" 16 He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

**BTW, Chariot(s) of fire?!! Elijah!!! [2Ki 2:11** And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

[Psa 68:17 ESV] 17 The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary.
[Psa 91:11 ESV] 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

[Mat 26:53 ESV] 53 Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?

[Heb 1:14 ESV] 14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

[2Ki 6:14-17 ESV] 14 So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and

they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 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?" 16 He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 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.

[2Ki 6:18-23 ESV] 18 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. 19 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. 20 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. 21 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?" 22 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." 23 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.

[Psa 119:18 ESV] 18 Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law

[Isa 42:7 ESV] 7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

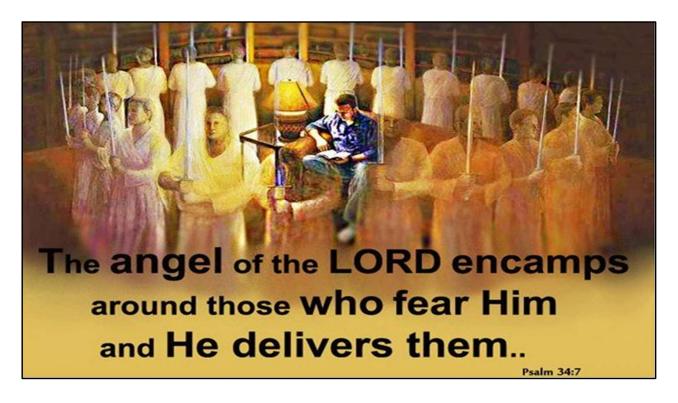
[Act 26:18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

[Eph 1:18 ESV] 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

[Rev 3:7 ESV] 7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

# "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"

- 1st Miracle the ability to see the hidden realm!
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Miracle Blinding an Entire Army, 'came against'!
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Miracle The Sparing of that army!



[Psa 34:1-9 ESV] 1 Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away. I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. 3 Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. 6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. 8 Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! 9 Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

The Story of Rwandan Soldiers Classmates at Liberty!

### "Do not be afraid"

- 2 Kings 6:16 He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."
- 365x "Do no be afraid" in the Bible? NO!
- How many times must God say something to be done?

This certainly speaks to our natural predispositions to Fear! Lets remember bad things do happen to us all! But Even then, God has purpose! Rom.8:28

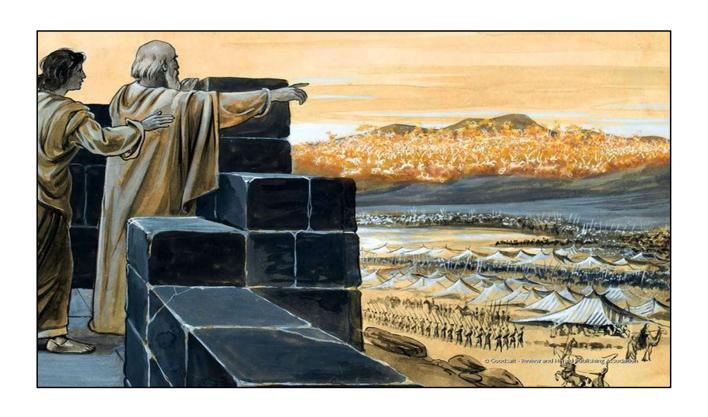
[2Ki 6:16 ESV] 16 He said, "**Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.**"

<u>The Bible does not say "do not be afraid" exactly 365 times</u>. While the phrase appears frequently, the number of times it is said varies depending on the Bible translation and whether variations of the phrase are included. Some translations, like the King James Version, use the phrase "fear not" over 60 times. Others, like the NIV, use "do not be afraid" around 70 times.

How many times must God say? Ask Gideon!

## "Do not be afraid"

- 90's to 140's in variations, Fear Not, Don't be afraid!
- Faith/Fear! Faith over fear
- Psalm 3:6 I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.



### Besieged! Surrounded and entrapped!

- Israel was besieged 23x, 118 conflicts
- Starvation, disease and despair is the worst weapon!
- It will happen next week 2 Kings 6:24 7:1-18, 8:1
- IT will happen again God will do Miracles!

2Ki.6:24-7:1-10, 8:1

[Psa 27:1-9 ESV] 1 Of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. 3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. 4 One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. 6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. 7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! 8 You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." 9 Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

[2Ti 4:14, 16-18 ESV] 14 Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord

will repay him according to his deeds. ... 16 At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! 17 But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

# Besieged! Surrounded and entrapped!

- Psalm 23:3 "Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident"
- Have you been there? Greater is He with you!



Besiegement's are not over ...

**Zechariah 14** – Jesus lands on Mount of Olives...People's flesh melts standing...Unusual Day, Earth splits

<u>Matthew 24</u> – Great Tribulation worse than any in time

Revelation 16, 19 – Blood to Horses bridle! Jesus & Mounted army!

<u>Ezekiel 38-39</u> – Russia & Iran 7 months of burying & burning

Jerusalem has been <u>besieged at least 23 times throughout its history</u>. In addition to being besieged, the city has also been destroyed twice, attacked 52 times, and captured and recaptured 44 times, <u>according to the Center for Israel Education</u>. https://israeled.org/jerusalem-timeline/

Recent Attacks on Israel have people predicting the Battle of Gog and Magog – Russia and Persia (Iran)!

[Eze 38:2, 5, 8, 12, 16, 19-23 ESV] 2 "Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him ... 5 Persia, Cush, and Put are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; ... 8 After many days you will be mustered. In the latter years you will go against the land that is restored from war, the land whose people were gathered from many peoples upon the mountains of Israel, which had been a continual waste. Its people were brought out from the peoples and now dwell securely, all of them. ... 12 to seize spoil and carry off plunder, to turn your hand against the waste places that are now inhabited, and the people who were gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell at the center of the earth. ... 16 You will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I

vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ... 19 For in my jealousy and in my blazing wrath I declare, On that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel. 20 The fish of the sea and the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the field and all creeping things that creep on the ground, and all the people who are on the face of the earth, shall quake at my presence. And the mountains shall be thrown down, and the cliffs shall fall, and every wall shall tumble to the ground. 21 I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains, declares the Lord GOD. Every man's sword will be against his brother. 22 With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter into judgment with him, and I will rain upon him and his hordes and the many peoples who are with him torrential rains and hailstones, fire and sulfur. 23 So I will show my greatness and my holiness and make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD.

[Eze 39:7, 9-13, 17, 22, 26, 29 ESV] 7 "And my holy name I will make known in the midst of my people Israel, and I will not let my holy name be profaned anymore. And the nations shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. ... 9 "Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and make fires of the weapons and burn them, shields and bucklers, bow and arrows, clubs and spears; and they will make fires of them for seven years, 10 so that they will not need to take wood out of the field or cut down any out of the forests, for they will make their fires of the weapons. They will seize the spoil of those who despoiled them, and plunder those who plundered them, declares the Lord GOD. 11 "On that day I will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel, the Valley of the Travelers, east of the sea. It will block the travelers, for there Gog and all his multitude will be buried. It will be called the Valley of Hamongog. 12 For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land. 13 All the people of the land will bury them, and it will bring them renown on the day that I show my glory, declares the Lord GOD. ... 17 "As for you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD: Speak to the birds of every sort and to all beasts of the field: 'Assemble and come, gather from all around to the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you, a great sacrificial feast on the mountains of Israel, and you shall eat flesh and drink blood. ... 22 The house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God, from that day forward. ... 26 They shall forget their shame and all the treachery they have practiced against me, when they dwell securely in their land with none to make them afraid, ... 29 And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD."

[Zec 14:1-7, 9-13, 16-17 ESV] 1 Behold, a day is coming for the LORD, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. 2 For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. 4 On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. 5 And you shall flee to the valley

of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. 6 On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. 7 And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the LORD, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light. ... 9 And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one. 10 The whole land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem shall remain aloft on its site from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses. 11 And it shall be inhabited, for there shall never again be a decree of utter destruction. Jerusalem shall dwell in security. 12 And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths. 13 And on that day a great panic from the LORD shall fall on them, so that each will seize the hand of another, and the hand of the one will be raised against the hand of the other. ... 16 Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths. 17 And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them.

[Mat 24:21, 27-29, 32-33, 36, 44 ESV] 21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. ... 27 For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 28 Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. 29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ... 32 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. 33 So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ... 36 "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ... 44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

[Rev 16:12-21 ESV] 12 The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. 13 And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. 14 For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. 15 ("Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!") 16 And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. 17 The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple, from

the throne, saying, "It is done!" 18 And there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake such as there had never been since man was on the earth, so great was that earthquake. 19 The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and God remembered Babylon the great, to make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found. 21 And great hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, fell from heaven on people; and they cursed God for the plague of the hail, because the plague was so severe.

[Rev 19:11, 13-21 ESV] 11 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ... 13 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. 14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. 15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. 17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great supper of God, 18 to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great." 19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. 20 And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. 21 And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

### Like Jesus!

• John 14:1, 27 – "<u>Let not your hearts be troubled</u>. Believe in God; believe also in me. ... Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. <u>Let not your hearts be troubled</u>, neither let them be afraid."

[Jhn 15:19-21 ESV] 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. 21 But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

[Rom 8:36 ESV] 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

[1Jo 4:4 ESV] 4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

[1Jo 5:4 ESV] 4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

## Like Jesus!

 John 16:33 – "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."



## Open our eyes, Lord!

- To realize there is a spiritual Warfare all about us!
- To see beyond the physical, to the spiritual/eternal!
- To see YOU on my side and for Christ's sake!
- To quit looking at men, enemies and circumstances and to keep my eyes on Christ!

[Mat 14:28-32 NIV] 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 **But when he <u>saw the wind</u>**, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.
[Pro 29:25 NIV] 25 <u>Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe</u>.

[Heb 12:1-2 ESV] 1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith**, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

## Open our eyes, Lord!

- Fixing our eyes on Jesus Hebrews 12:2
- To your promises, presence and power! Fear NOT!!!



Whom Shall I Fear (God Of Angel Armies) Song by Chris Tomlin

OverviewLyricsOther recordings

Lyrics

You hear me when I call

You are my morning song

Though darkness fills the night

It cannot hide the light

Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy

Underneath my feet

You are my sword and shield

Though troubles linger still

Whom shall I fear?

I know who goes before me

I know who stands behind

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

The one who reigns forever

He is a friend of mine

## The God of angel armies Is always by my side

My strength is in your name

For you alone can save

You will deliver me

Yours is the victory

Whom shall I fear?

Whom shall I fear?

I know who goes before me

I know who stands behind

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

The one who reigns forever

He is a friend of mine

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

And nothing formed against me shall stand

You hold the whole world in your hands

I'm holding on to your promises

You are faithful

You are faithful

Nothing formed against me shall stand

You hold the whole world in your hands

I'm holding on to your promises

You are faithful

You are faithful

You are faithful

I know who goes before me

I know who stands behind

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

The one who reigns forever

He is a friend of mine

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

I know who goes before me

I know who stands behind

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

The one who reigns forever

He is a friend of mine

The God of angel armies

Is always by my side

Whom shall I fear?

Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? The God of angel armies Is always by my side



[1Co 11:24 ESV] 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."  $\,$ 



[1Co 11:25 ESV] 25 In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

