THE BATTLE IS THE LORD’S
PART II
2 Kings 6:18-33

MAIN THOUGHT  God revealed Himself to Elisha and the Israelites as the God who SEES (8-17), PROTECTS (15-17), is MERCIFUL (18-23), is STERN (24-33), and FULFILLS PROMISES (7:1-20).

"Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God" . . . ROMANS 11:22

The God Who is Merciful (18-23).

- Elisha had just asked God to open the eyes of his servant but now he asks God to BLIND the eyes of his enemies (Gen. 19:11).
- They were on the WRONG ROAD (Psa. 119:104; Prov. 16:25; Matt. 7:13-14).
- Elisha, like Andrew (John 1:41-42; 6:8-9; 12:21-22), would lead them to the one they were looking for.
- It was technically not a lie but a deception to an enemy (Ex. 1:19-21; Josh. 2:6). Obey God rather than man (Acts 4:19); life-saving is priority (Corrie ten Boom)!
- He personally led the blind Aramaen army into the fortified gates of Samaria the capital; then God opened their eyes (Acts 9:17-19).
- King Joram called Elisha ‘my father’ now; later would want his head (32)!
- He asked if he should kill them but Elisha said only with KINDNESS (2 Chron. 28:14-15; Prov. 25:21-22; Luke 6:35-36) – feed them and return them unharmed.
- It worked then – they stopped raiding; it will work today as well (Matt. 5:7).

The God Who is Stern (24-33).

- Later, war resumed with Ben-Hadad II laying seige to Samaria (850 BC).
- This resulted in a severe famine as predicted by God for failing to live up to the terms of their covenant with God (Lev. 26:17).
- This could have been avoided by HUMILITY and REPENTANCE (2 Chron 7:14).
- This even resulted in cannibalism (Lev. 26:27-29; Lam. 4:10)! It was so bad that the king tore his robes – not in humility and repentance but in anger toward God and Elisha (31). These are the steps of grief.
- The sackcloth under his robe may have been a private attempt to appease an angry God – but we should do so outwardly (Matt. 10:32).
- Elisha had counseled WAIT (33) but Joram was done; he threatened Elisha with death as was Elijah (1 Kings 19:2), Jeremiah (Jer. 38:9), John the Baptist (Matt. 14:9-10), Jesus (Matt. 27:35), and many of the other prophets (Heb. 11:35b).
- Elisha was not afraid. He did not accept the authority of the illegitimate Joram – son of wicked Ahab and not the line of David (3:14).
- Knowing what would happen, they shut the door on Joram (Gen. 19:10).
- Repent before it is too late and owner of the house shuts the door (Luke 13:24-25). Christ said “I AM THE DOOR” (John 10:9).