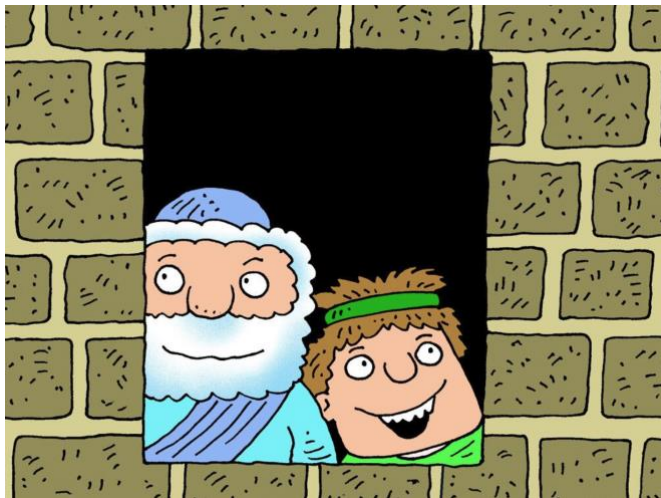


Elisha and the Army of Fire - Part 2

2 Kings 6:18-23



At the end of 'Part One' a small army of Syrian soldiers had surrounded the city of Dothan. They had come to capture Elisha! When his servant saw them he was very scared but God's unseen army was there too, to protect Elisha. It was a powerful army of Fire.



God had revealed His army of fire to Elisha and his servant but it was invisible to everyone else. They knew that God would protect them. As the army marched towards the house where they were staying Elisha calmly prayed to God saying, "Lord make these Syrian soldiers lose their sight"

Why do you think Elisha prayed that God would make the soldiers blind?

What do you think happened next?



Suddenly the whole of the Syrian army became blind. They were fumbling around, bumping into each other and dropping their weapons.

"Where is the Prophet Elisha's house?" they asked. "Where did he go?"



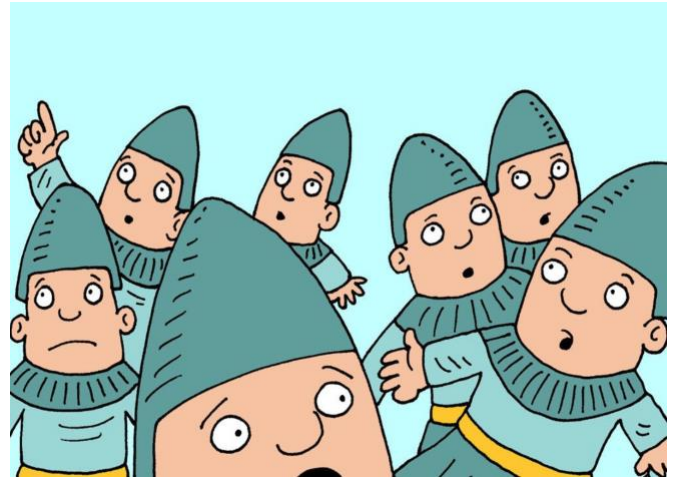
"This way! This way!" Elisha shouted. "I will lead you to him."

So he walked down the road towards Samaria and the Syrian Army stumbled along behind him. It was a long journey and a very strange sight!

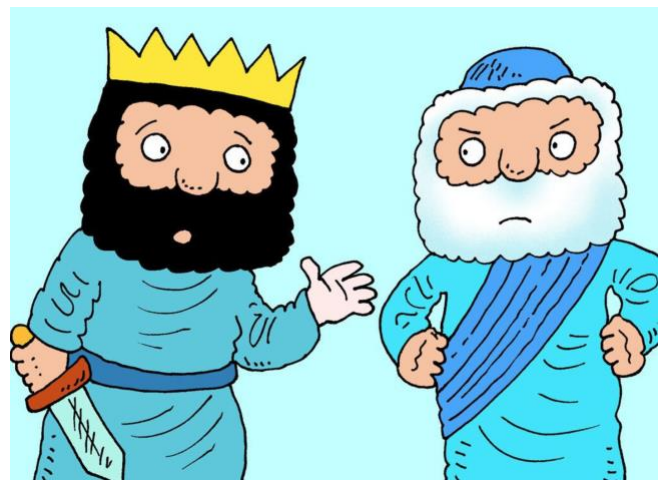
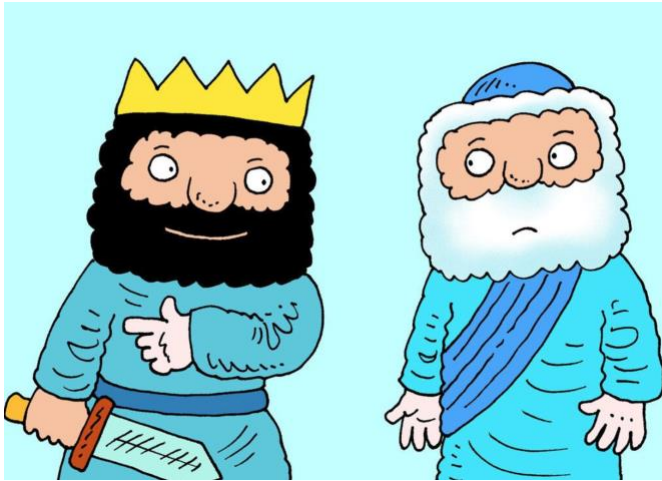


The Israelites were amazed to see Elisha leading the Syrian army into their city. Elisha led them through the city gates and then he prayed.

"Lord please open their eyes so they can see again."



Immediately the soldiers could see again. They stared around in amazement. Then they realised where they were! "Help!" they cried "we are in Samaria surrounded by our enemies, the Israelites and we have no weapons



The King of Israel was amazed. He had the enemy soldiers just where he wanted them.

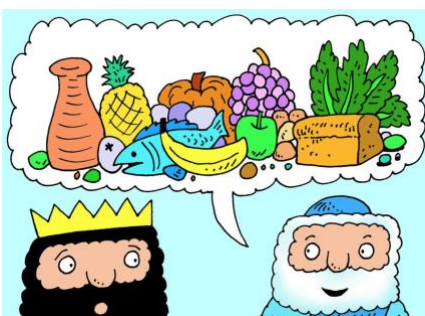
"Shall I kill them? He asked Elisha.

"No," Elisha insisted. "You didn't capture them so you don't need to fight them."

"What shall I do with them then? The King asked.

"Feed them," said Elisha. "Give them food and drink and show them kindness and mercy. Then send them home."

So the King of Israel prepared a great feast for the soldiers. They ate and drank as much as they wanted. Afterwards they were told that they could leave and go home. They left and never came back again.



What an extraordinary story!

How do you think the soldiers must have felt?

I think they must have felt

- very **scared** when they went blind
- **relieved** when someone was leading them to find Elisha
- **amazed** when they could see again
- **horrified** when they realised where they were
- **astonished** when the King made them a great feast
- very **thankful** when they were allowed to go home

What a strange day it must have been for them.

What about Elisha?



Elisha was doing what Jesus told the Christians to do many years later. In Luke 6:27 Jesus said,

“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.”

The soldiers had come to capture Elisha and to take him to the King of Syria who had been very angry and would probably have punished or even killed him. But Elisha listened to God and told the King of Israel to be kind to the enemy soldiers.

Jesus wants us to be kind to everyone and that includes those we don't like and those who are unkind to us.

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you that you love everyone.

Help us to be kind like Elisha.

Help us to be kind to everyone even to those are not very kind to us.

Amen



Links

These are links for parts 1 and 2 of the story of Elisha and the Army of Fire

Bible Heroes of Faith - Elisha and the Army of Fire

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTpRV1c7-5c>

8 mins

Life Kids - Elisha's Servant see an Army of Angels

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8LN1py7XxQ>

3 mins

Adria Star - Elisha and the Invisible Army

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZpM1Subt2E>

10 mins

ShareFaith Kids - Horses and Chariots of fire

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Knep8_SoFY

3 mins

Free Bible Images - Elisha and the Army of Fire - Part 2 (Slideshow)

<https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-army-2/>







Elisha And The Invisible Angel Army Coloring Page. Jehovah-Sabaoth ...

Elisha and the army of fire

2 Kings 6:8-23

Can you find these words:-

Elisha
army
fire
King
Syria
Samaria
blind
food
drink
servant

F	Q	S	R	T	U	S	I	K	G
S	I	F	Y	A	J	L	E	N	O
A	D	R	V	R	N	O	I	C	B
M	S	W	E	M	I	K	B	P	F
A	E	A	B	Y	I	A	U	X	B
R	R	E	N	D	R	I	N	K	L
I	V	R	Y	M	O	I	A	Z	I
A	A	U	E	L	I	S	H	A	N
J	N	R	B	P	M	C	O	I	D
C	T	A	U	F	O	O	D	F	T

