

Title: God Goggles

Text: 2 Kings 6:8-23

Target: What seems overwhelming in the natural, must be seen by the filter of the supernatural.

- I. **A Messenger-Spying:** *“And one of his servants said, “None, 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.**” (Vs. 12)*
- II. **A City-Surrounded:** *“Behold, he is in Dothan.” So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and **surrounded the city.**” (Vs. 13b-14)*
- III. **A Servant-Scared:** *“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?”** (Vs. 15)*

Discussion Question: This is likely the same king of Syria that sent Naaman to Israel (see 2 Kings 5). He knew of the miraculous healing that Naaman experienced from God at the hands of Elisha and thus sent many armies to capture him. Elisha’s servant was terrified when he saw the surrounding army of the Syrians. However, Elisha was not afraid for he could see with eyes of faith. Is there a situation in your life that you feel surrounded by the invading enemy? If not you or not now, perhaps you can recall a season of your life or that of a close friend/relative? Are you able to see the surrounding armies of The LORD that stand ready to do battle for you? Do you need to remind others or be reminded of this truth?

- IV. **A Prayer-Stated:** *“Then Elisha prayed and said, “O LORD, please **open his eyes** that he may see.” (Vs. 17a)*
 - a. **A Voice of Calmness:** *“Do not be afraid” (Vs. 16a)*
 - b. **A Virtue of Confidence:** *“for those who are with us are more than those who are with them” (16b)*
 - c. **A Vision of the Cavalry:** *“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” (Vs. 17b)*

Discussion Question: Now recall a time when you have seen the enemy retreat in the face of The LORD’s surrounding armies. Share a victorious situation with the group.

- V. **An Enemy-Served:** *“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” (Vs. 23)*

Discussion Question: Read Romans 12:19-21. It is hard to imagine being as kind to your enemy as Elisha was with the Syrians. But God (this is my favorite clause in the Bible) has ways that are higher than our ways and His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. God knows that just as we were once estranged from Him, our enemies are estranged and need His loving

kindness. We are the vessels of that kindness. Is there someone in your life that needs you to be kind to them even though it seems counterintuitive or hard?

Takeaway: Don't give up in Dothan! (Genesis 50:20)

- **Request Prophetic Insight:** *"lean not on your own understanding"* Proverbs 3:5
- **Recall Historic Hindsight:** *"forget not all his benefits"* Psalm 103:2
- **Rest in Supernatural Oversight:** *"If God is for us then who can be against us"* Romans 8:31
- **Receive Eternal Foresight:** *"Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, but to give you a hope and a future"* Jeremiah 29:11