

**2 Kings 6:8-23 — "How Prayer Dispels Fear!"**

- What do you fear? What are you fearful of? What are you afraid of?
- We as God's children have *NO* reason to fear — whatever circumstance of life — ***prayer banishes fear!***
- Our God is ALL-sufficient, He is our portion, He is our protection.
- Prayer dispels, banishes, shuts out and REMOVES fear!

*A Little Background to 2 Kings 6 on Elisha the Prophet & His Times*

- 2 Kings is the narrative, historical account of the **Divided Israelite Kingdom of old** — N. Kingdom & S. Kingdom. God has raised up 2 primary ***prophets*** — Elijah & now **Elisha**.
- Earlier Elijah (who prophesied during the reign of the wicked King Ahab/Jezebel) — was taken to heaven in a whirlwind with chariots of fire & horses of fire (2 Kings 2). **Now**, Elisha is on the scene with Ahab's son **Jehoram**. He's bad, but not as bad as Ahab! Elisha is the prophet, the spokesman, the man of God, the preacher!

**Let's Journey Through this Account Together & See how *Prayer Dispels Fear! Prayer Banishes Fear!*****1. The Angered King (8-12)****2. The Assembled Army (13-14)**

*Think about Dothan. Any Jewish person would recognize Dothan as the place made famous by another man of God in deep trouble. Joseph had been thrown into a pit and then sold him into slavery at Dothan (Genesis 37:17). In that pit Joseph prayed that God would deliver him. Did God answer his prayers? Yes, but not the way he expected. He was sold to a group of slave-traders from Egypt. He was falsely accused by Potiphar and thrown into prison. He was forgotten by a butler. But God was working in all of this to get Joseph into a place where he could rescue both himself, his family, and all the people of God. God delivered in amazing ways in Dothan!*

3. The **Alarmed Servant** (15) [*alarmed, agitated, petrified, horrified, fearful*]

4. The **Awesome Prayer** (16-17) [*simple, plain, bold, staggering*]

Note: the prayer was not for the **\*\*circumstance to change\*\*** but for the servant's sight to be clearer!

5. The **Assured Protection** (18-23)

***Very Practically: how does prayer banish fear? Prayer gives us \*spiritual sight\* & \*spiritual understanding\* in a God who is all-sufficient & all-powerful.***

Col 1.9 - Paul prays for spiritual wisdom & understanding.

Phil 1.9 - Paul prays for real knowledge & discernment.

**OFTEN WE CAN HAVE OUR EYES BLINDED TO 4 REALITIES:**

>> and when this happens, *fear creeps in and, like a thief, steals our joy.*

**1. God's presence**

**2. God's protection**

### 3. God's provision

### 4. God's promises

The clearer sight we have of the sovereignty and power of God the less we shall fear the calamities of this earth (Matthew Henry).

When we fear, we must return to God's promises! The promises of God are like the loving arms of a Father. Indeed, God's promises are like the key to His own palace. We're called to take it, use it, hide in it, rest in it, rejoice in it!

### **The CLARITY of our sight will be the CUTTING OUT of our fears.**

Ephesians 1:15-17 — For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, *may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.*

When you're in the intersection between the promises of God and the details of your situation, what you do with your mind is very important. In this intersection, God will never ask you to deny reality. Abraham did not deny reality. Romans 4 says that he "considered the deadness of Sarah's womb." Faith doesn't deny reality. No, it is a God-focused way of considering reality. (Paul Tripp)

How blessed is this! "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you: because he trusts in you" (Isaiah 26:3). There was no trepidation on the part of Elisha; perfect peace was his, and therefore could he say, "Fear not" to his trembling companion. Note there is no scolding of his servant, but instead a turning to the Lord on his behalf. At first the writer was puzzled at the "Elisha prayed" rather than the "man of God"; but pondering this brought out a precious lesson. It was not in his official character that he prayed, but simply as a personal believer—to

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show us that God is ready to grant the petition of any child of His who asks in simple faith and unselfish concern for another. (AW Pink, *commenting on 2 Kings 6 on Elisha*)

## I RUN TO CHRIST

I run to Christ when chased by fear  
And find a refuge sure.

"Believe in me," His voice I hear;  
His words and wounds secure.

I run to Christ when torn by grief  
And find abundant peace.

"I too had tears," He gently speaks;  
Thus joy and sorrow meet.

I run to Christ when worn by life  
And find my soul refreshed.  
"Come unto Me," He calls through strife;  
Fatigue gives way to rest.

I run to Christ when vexed by hell  
And find a mighty arm.  
"The Devil flees," the Scriptures tell;  
He roars, but cannot harm.

I run to Christ when stalked by sin  
And find a sure escape.  
"Deliver me," I cry to Him;  
Temptation yields to grace.  
I run to Christ when plagued by shame  
And find my one defense.  
"I bore God's wrath," He pleads my case—  
My Advocate and Friend.

## JESUS PAID IT ALL

I hear the Savior say,  
"Thy strength indeed is small;  
Child of weakness, watch and pray,  
Find in Me thine all in all."

**Jesus paid it all,  
All to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow.**

And when before the throne  
I stand in Him complete,  
"Jesus died my soul to save!"  
My lips shall still repeat.

And now complete in Him  
My robe His righteousness,  
Close sheltered 'neath His side,  
I am divinely blest.