

THE INVISIBLE ARMY

The history of Israel includes many wars with neighboring countries. Because of so much idolatry by the Israelites God often punished them by sending attacking armies against them.

II Kings, chapter 6, records one such war with Aram. But this time the Lord helped the Israelites. The prophet Elisha helped Israel by telling them the various things that the Arameans were planning. The king of Aram was furious when he realized that someone was telling the Israelites what his plans were. He thought there was a traitor among his men, but he was told that it was the prophet Elisha who was revealing all his secrets to the king of Israel.

The king of Aram learned that Elisha was in the city of Dothan. He sent many men with horses and chariots to take Elisha captive. When Elisha's servant arose the next morning he saw the army of the Arameans surrounding the city. Greatly alarmed, he asked Elisha, "Oh, my lord, what shall we do?"

Then Elisha answered, "Don't be afraid. Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Then Elisha prayed that God would open the servant's eyes. He then was able to see what had been invisible before: the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha!

The God who protected Elisha is the same God who protects his people today. We may not be able to see his army of protectors who work for us, but we can be assured that they are there. What a source of comfort and assurance!

As for the Aramean army----God struck them all blind. They were captured, fed, and sent back home.....ending the raids of Aram into Israel's territory.