Our scripture comes from 2 Kings 6:14-17. A little background before we read the scripture. The Syrians were attacking Israel, but every time they moved camp or made a plan, the King of Israel knew! The King of Syria said, “There must be a spy among us.”, but his people knew that Elisha was being given these plans by God and he was telling the King of Israel. So the Syrian King sent an army to capture Elisha. This is where we find ourselves this morning, standing in the courtyard, off to the side of Elisha’s servant as he stepped outside first thing in the morning.

**2 Kings 6:14-17 14Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” 16So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who *are* with us *are* more than those who *are* with them.” 17And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then 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.**

Over in Matthew 6:34 we read the words of Jesus - *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.* True words! Watch the news, you’ll be depressed. Talk to most people, you’ll be discouraged. Go to social media, you’ll be disgusted. Sufficient for this day is the trouble we’ll find in it! We don’t need to borrow any from tomorrow – got plenty today. We need a reminder today that God is still on the mountain! He’s still in control. The question is – will we open our spiritual eyes and see it?

Look with me at verse 14*Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.* The Syrian king sends horses, chariots, and a great army to surround the city. Last night, no army. This morning, surrounded! Ever had a morning like that? Last night, you went to bed with few cares. This morning, trouble is everywhere! Everyone has had this happen! I read a quote the other day that said, If Christians sat in a circle and compared notes on where we struggle, we would be embarrassed at our lack of originality. Be assured – there are no new struggles under the sun, only new people having them.

A side note here – secure your city. Don’t leave the gates wide open. Protect yourself! In Matthew 6:22-23, we read - *The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great*is*that darkness!* Secure your city. Guard your heart. Many of us remember singing a child’s song where we sang – be careful little eyes what you see, be careful little ear what you hear, be careful little feet where you go. We learned it as a child. Are we practicing it as an adult?! The trouble may be all around outside – only we can prop open the gate.

Verse 15 - *And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?”*Can’t you see it? He steps out and there is a great army! Anxiety flies hot! Fear runs rampant! Wringing his hands, he says – Alas my master! What shall we do? Notice where his eyes are fixed. They are fixed on the world. Not walking by faith, but be *sight.*

Anyone wringing their hands while they watch Fox or CNN? Anyone feeling anger, fear, frustration watching mortals make a mess of the responsibility entrusted to them? Galatians calls these works of the flesh – nowhere in the fruit of the spirit can I find worry and strife.

Listen to Elisha’s answer in verse 16 *So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”*We must believe that God is with us today! When we walk outside and see the army of trouble overspreading the day in front of us, we mustn’t wring our hands, but proclaim the power of Christ! In 1 John 4:4 we read *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.* He who is in us is greater than he who is in the world! What do we choose to see?

Verse 17 *And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then 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.* Elisha has his spiritual eyes open!God has the strategic high ground – He’s all around who? Elisha!. The mountain is full! Chariots of fire waiting to do the bidding of God’s servant. The great army in the valley doesn’t even know God’s power is waiting to consume. Elisha prays for God to spiritually awaken the young man. When God opened his eyes, the servant understood that the world had nothing for him to fear. Indeed, those who are with him are more than those against him.

God does the same for us when we call on His name. He opens our mind so we might see His mighty hand. We’ve nothing to fear when we rest in Him. Listen to Romans 13:11-14 *And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.*  Jesus is our armor of light – we are to make no provision for the flesh. Don’t leave the gates of your soul open. Guard your heart.

Today, let’s examine what our eye is seeing, our ear is hearing. Let’s examine whether we are seeing the darkness of this world in the valley or the fire of our God on the mountain. Do we have worry wringing in our hands or a song of praise ringing in our hearts? Be careful little church what you see – the Father up above is looking down in love – let’s be careful little church what our spiritual eyes see.