"The Faith of Elisha: Open our Eyes"

- I. The overwhelming army (v. 8-14)
 - A. Elisha knew where the enemy's location

"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." (Hebrews 4:13)

- B. Elisha was an informant for the king
- C. The King of Aram is <u>angry</u>
- D. The army is sent to capture Elisha

*Map of Dothan

E. Elisha is not afraid

"Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident." (Psalm 27:3)

- II. The fearful servant (v. 15)
 - A. The servant saw the enemy surrounding them

*Picture of Dothan ruins – hill top

- B. The servant saw no hope
- C. The servant experienced great fear
- III. The invisible army of God (v. 16-17)
 - A. Elisha knows that they are not outnumbered

"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways." (Psalm 95:11)

B. Elisha knows they will not be defeated

"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you." (Jeremiah 32:17)

- C. Elisha tells the servant to not be afraid
- D. Elisha prays for the servant's eyes to be opened
 - 1. He sees the forces of God are present

*Picture of hills around Dothan...

"As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forevermore." (Palm 125:2)

2. He sees the forces of God are powerful

"The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers him." (Psalm 34:7)

3. He sees the forces of God are sufficient

"The chariots of God are tens of thousands and thousands of thousands." (Psalm 68:17)

- IV. The faith of Elisha (v. 18-23)
 - A. Elisha had the faith to pray

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)

- B. Elisha had the faith to see his prayers answered
- C. Elisha captured the overwhelming army through prayer
- D. The people of Israel enjoyed peace