

The Opening of Eyes

II Kings 6:8-18

Well, I think I may have to change the name of the program to "It's a Great Life," and it is a great life knowing Jesus as our Savior, but the name of the program is "It's a Good Life." And it is a good life, knowing the Lord, knowing that He loves us. He loved us before we loved Him, and we can rejoice today in knowing that we're on our way to Heaven, and nothing can stop us or stand in our way from going to Heaven and being with our Lord. It is once again good to be with you. Today, we're going to look in II Kings chapter 6, "The Opening of Eyes."

Let me invite you to look at our website once again: www.LRWM.org. You can download a transcript of this program and other programs of "It's a Good Life." You can go there and also leave prayer requests. You can also find Bible study helps on there. You can find the plan of salvation on there. Maybe you don't know how to present the plan of salvation to a loved one. Go there and read that and look at that and use that as an outline so that you can take the Bible and show someone else how they can know Jesus as their Savior.

You can also write to me, Lewis Woodard, 497 Judith Avenue, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731. Take time to write me a note today. Let me know you're listening and let me know that the program is a blessing to you.

In II Kings chapter 6, we're going to read several verses here. II Kings chapter 6, verses 8 through 18: ⁸*Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp.* ⁹*And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.* ¹⁰*And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him*

of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice. ¹¹*Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel?* ¹²*And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.* ¹³*And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.* ¹⁴*Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.* ¹⁵*And when the servant of the man of God was risen early ... This is Elisha's man here, rose early as he had ... gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do "What are we gonna do to get out of this? We're surrounded," he was telling Elisha.*

Elisha answered and said, ¹⁶*[F]ear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.* ¹⁷*And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes In other words, Elisha prayed that He would open the servant's eyes and let him see something. ... that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.* ¹⁸*And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.*

Well, we see here that eyes were opened. This young man was scared and rightly so. They were outnumbered. They were surrounded, but Elisha said, "Lord, open his eyes and let him see

that we're not alone, that we are protected, that You are our Protector."

Well, the natural eye is blind to Heavenly things. God is everywhere, but sin, blinded eyes, do not see Him. Men are still evil, guilty, and fallen, and yet, they do not see their own wounds and bruises and putrefying sores. In Isaiah 1:6, it says, *From the sole of the foot even unto the head, there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores. They have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.*

People still need to know Jesus as Savior today. We think of this country as the Christian country. The Christian lives here. As we look around, we see that there are still people living in sin. Our job is not finished as Christians. We need to be showing people the way to the Lord. Blinded eyes need to be opened. And there is a lack of spiritual discernment in the world today. It makes a man base and dishonorable.

Sampson, as he was blinded, is a sorry spectacle. From a judge in Israel, he sinks to a slave in Philistia. How many people and men and women in the Word of God do we see who....they need to keep on keeping on for the Lord, but we see them turning and casting a blind eye towards spiritual things. But God has actually never left them. God never turns His back on those who turn their backs on Him. He's always there. He's always their God, and He's always their Heavenly Father if they've trusted the Lord as Savior.

Well, there's spiritual blindness, and this spiritual blindness keeps a man content with the world. He does not see how low and poor the world is. The things that he sweats and hurts for and sins for cause a sacrifice of Heaven. Well, this sin, this spiritual blindness, places men in danger. Matthew 15:14 says, *[I]f the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.* We need

to go to the man of God today. We need to go to the women of God today. We need to go to the Word of God today and find out how that people can be led out of this spiritual blindness. We don't need to go to someone of the world, someone who has never trusted Christ as Savior and ask their opinions or what they think. We need to go to spiritual people and ask them what thus saith the Lord, not that they are the Lord, but that they have been in the Word of God. They have been with the Lord, and they know spiritual things as God has led them and guided them.

As we look around today, we need to understand this. God alone can open man's eyes. We can lead the blind, but we cannot make them see. We can put truth before people, but we cannot open their eyes. This work remains with God alone.

Now, some use artificial eyes; others try glasses, telescopes, colored glasses, and so forth. They try all sorts of things, but all in vain. The eyes remain blind. Man has tried everything to feel good, to look good, to do good, but it's all in vain unless their eyes have been opened by the Lord. The cure is of the Lord alone. To give sight is the same wondrous creation of God. He alone can make the eye, and the center of the faculty of spiritual vision is God. It is only brought through the Lord Jesus Christ. The sight can only come, the spiritual sight, can only come through the Lord.

Now, we cannot open the eye. God can. But we can pray for God to open men's eyes. In II Kings chapter 6 and verse 17, our text, it says, *LORD, I pray thee open his eyes that he may see.* When we hear of a person inquiring of God, when we understand that a person is concerned for their destiny, we should inquire of the Lord for them. We need to pray for them. Their prayer should call us to pray. In other words, when we have a person come to us and say,

“You know, I would get saved, I would ask Jesus into my heart, but I really don’t know how,” we need to pray with and for that person that God would open their eyes, their spiritual eyes, their heart, to understand that Jesus died for them. He suffered for them, but thank God, He lives today that all of us who trust Him can go to Heaven one day. The prayers of others avail much for us as we stop to think back, those of us who are saved, and therefore, you and I should repay the blessing to the prayer treasury of the church of the people who prayed for us and asked God to lead us to the cross that we might see our lost condition.

Why should we do this? First of all, it will glorify God to open their eyes. We need to pray with great expectancy, believing that He will honor His Son. He can’t force a person to be saved, but He can lead them to the cross so they can see the need in their lives, so that their eyes can be opened by seeing Christ. God does open men’s eyes. He’s done it in a moment. He did it in my life, and there’s many miracles in the Bible that talks about the opening of the blind eye.

He can open your eyes today. He can lead you. He can help you to see the condition that you’re in. He can help you to see that you, too, can have spiritual sight today. In Psalm 146:8, it says, *The LORD openeth the eyes of the blind.* And He even opens the eyes of those people who have named Him as Savior. He gives more sight.

We look into the Scriptures. We look to Him. Hebrews chapter 6 and verse 1 says, *Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God....* That means, once we’re saved, we need to mature as Christians. We need to mature in the Word of God. We need to study the Word of God. We need to

study the Scriptures, and we need to have our eyes, our spiritual eyes as Christians.... We need to continue on in the light.

In Christ Himself, we see that there are hidden glories. In John chapter 12 and verse 21, it says, *Sir, we would see Jesus.* When we look to Jesus as a human being, first of all, He not only lets us understand that we can have spiritual sight in receiving Him as our Savior, He opens our eyes to the fact that we’re lost and we need Him to save us in order to go to Heaven. Then, after we’re saved, we look to Him that He will lead us and guide us into all truth that we, too, can become a mature Christian and help other people find Him as Lord and Savior.

Why not bow your head right where you’re at and ask Jesus to come into your heart today. He’ll save you right where you’re at. And if you are saved and you have not turned to Him today in prayer, I ask you to bow your head right now and say, “God, help me to serve You more each day for Jesus’ sake. Amen.”

Well, it’s been good being with you today, and I pray that you’ll tune in at this same time next week, and until then, may the Lord bless you richly is my prayer.