

The Lord provides,
the Lord protects.

2 KINGS 6



The divided Kingdom

Caption

“Thy power throughout the universe displayed...”

God’s provision and protection: 2 Kings 6:1-23

- See how God answers the prayers of the people
- See how these answers sustain His people in difficult times
- See how God hears all our needs, however large or small
 - *Someone losing something (his axe head)*
 - *Someone scared of the worldly opposition he can see*
- *Be reminded that “He who is in us, is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4)*

1. Provision: the axe-head floats (6:1-7)

- A light in dark times: In the reign of ungodly kings, the school of the prophets is growing (v1).
- God will preserve His work and witness
- They plan their work, and they ask for Elisha to go with them (3-4).
 - They were faithful in the small things, and not like the world
- The miracle – v 5-7.
 - The axe was borrowed – the man would have been in debt to repay. Iron tools were expensive
 - What a comfort to see God meeting a simple personal need!
 - Ordinary things used (*a stick*) – but an extraordinary God!
 - The encouragement to the people – now, and later
 - God doesn't work according to human standards... but He does care for the issues of our lives....we must bring them to Him!

2. Protection: (2 Kings 6:8-23)

- The King of Aram / Syria – raiding Israel (v8)
- But Elisha is able to warn Israel of these raids (v9-10)
- The King of Aram is furious (v11). “Which of you is a traitor?”
- V12 – they tell the King that Elisha “knows the very words you speak in your bedroom”
- V13-14 – they seek to capture Elisha in Dothan & send an army
- V15 – the servant gets up, and sees an army surrounding the city. “Oh my lord, what shall we do?”

2. Protection: (2 Kings 6:8-23)

- V16 The reassuring word: “Don’t be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”
- V17 Elisha prays “that the servant may have his eyes opened” – and he sees this mighty army of God – more powerful than the enemy!
- Psalm 124:8, Ps 34:4-8
- V18 The enemy is struck blind – and Elisha leads them to Samaria
- The king asks “Shall I kill them?” But they are fed and looked after – and return to Syria.
- God has protected his people in a remarkable way.