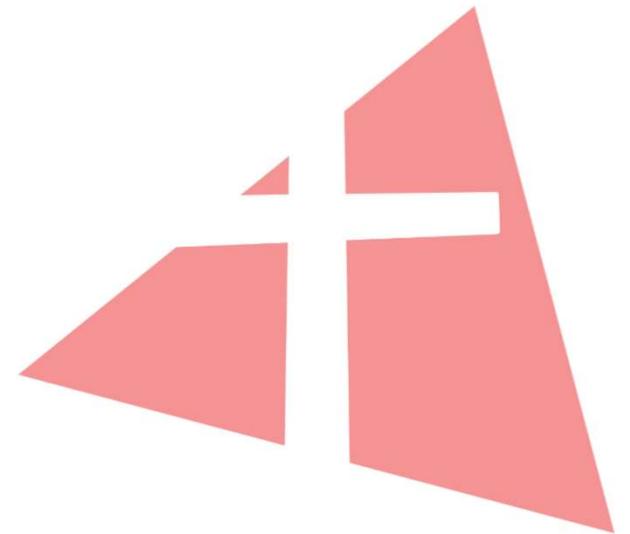


# **BE REALISTIC! GOD'S WAY!**

**Verse by Verse series**

**January 06<sup>th</sup> 2019**

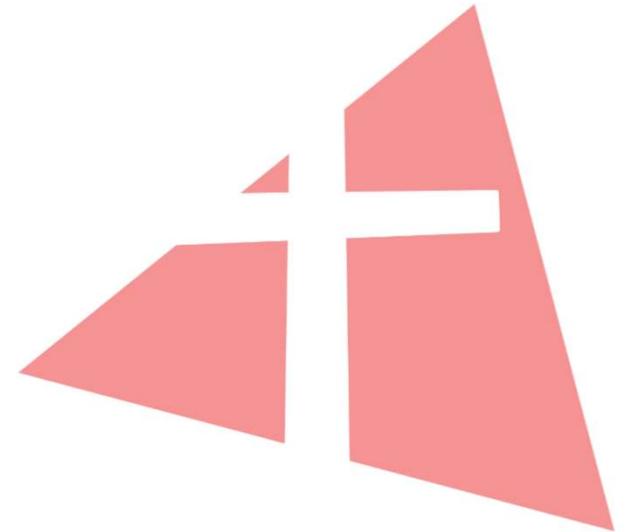


# THIS MONTH

- **Seeking God first**

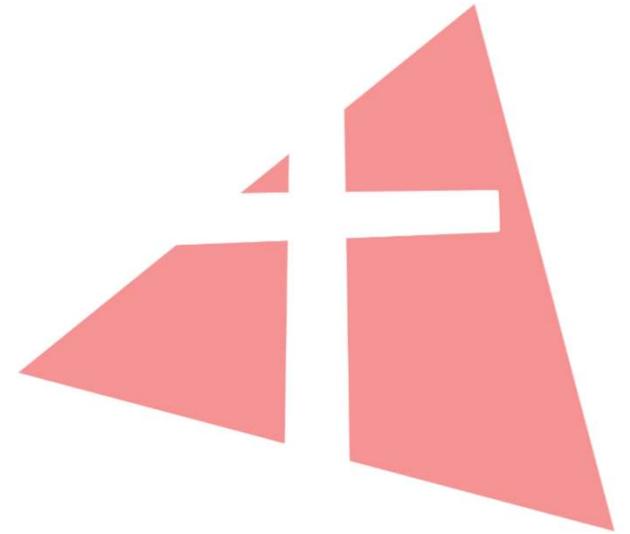
- **Passages**

- Be realistic! (2. Kings 6)
- Seeking God first (Matt. 6)
- Do not be anxious about anything (Phil. 4)



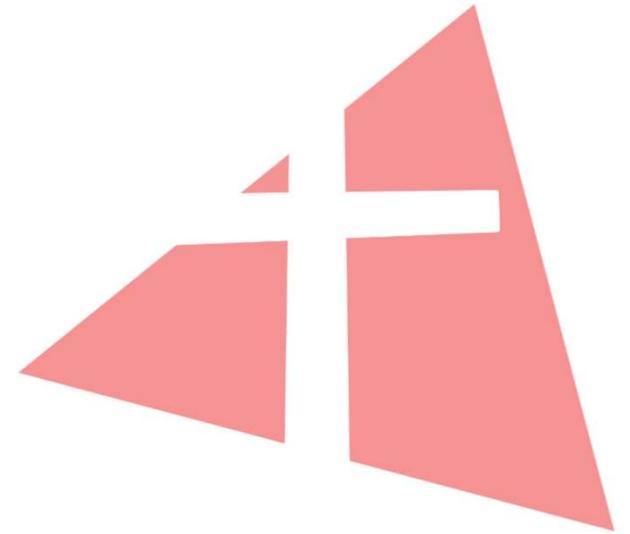
# BEING REALISTIC

- Many non-Christians accuse Christians of “not being realistic”



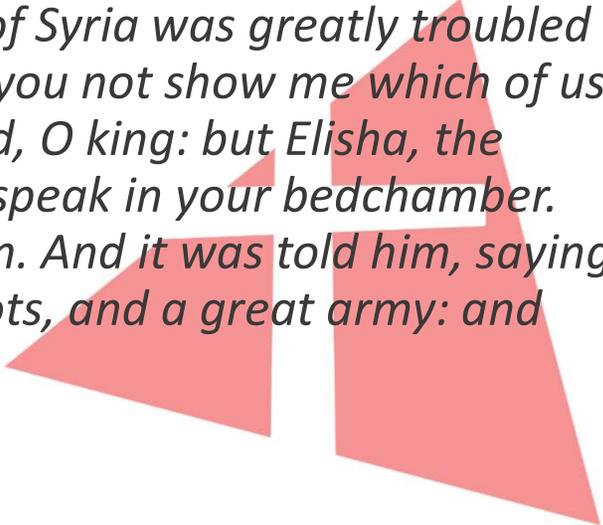
# QUESTIONS FOR TODAY

- Is a Christian supposed to be unrealistic?



# CONTEXT

*2 Kings 6:8-14 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. And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that you pass not this place; for there the Syrians have come down. 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. Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was greatly troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel? And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedchamber. And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and bring him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan. Therefore sent he there horses, and chariots, and a great army: and they came by night, and surrounded the city.*



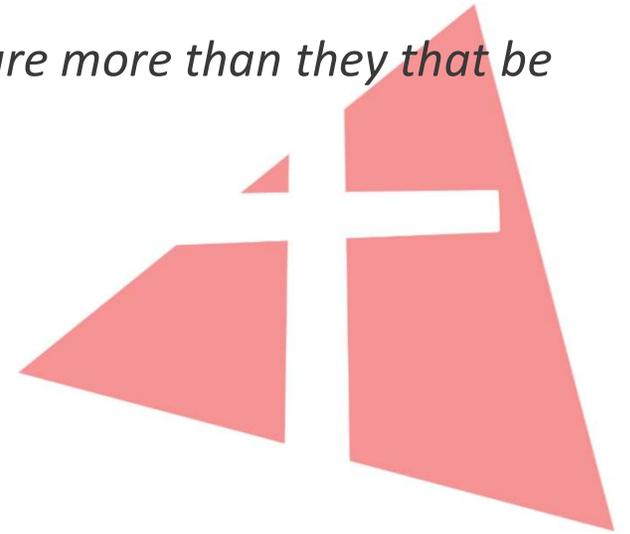
# MAIN PASSAGE

*2 Kings 6:15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an army compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! what shall we do?*



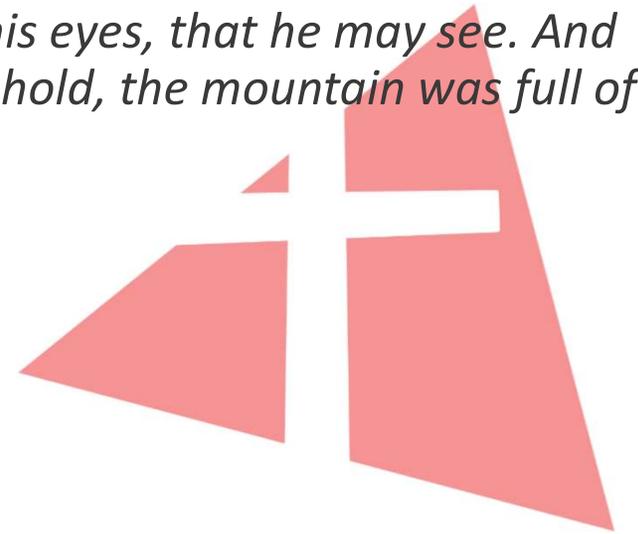
# MAIN PASSAGE

*2 Kings 6:16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*



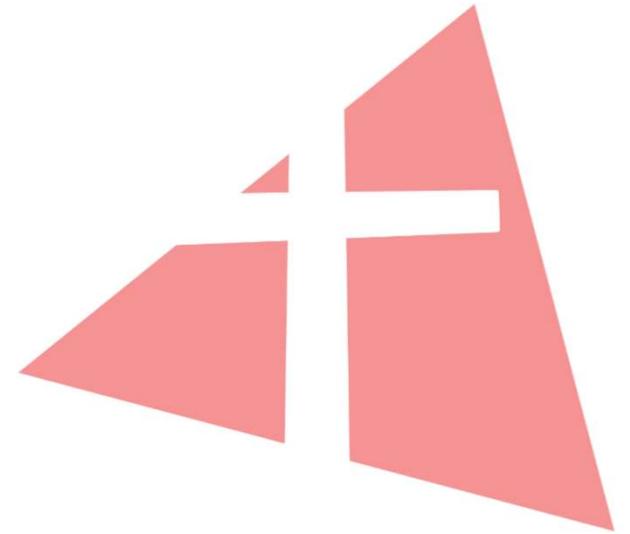
# MAIN PASSAGE

*2 Kings 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray you, open his eyes, 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.*



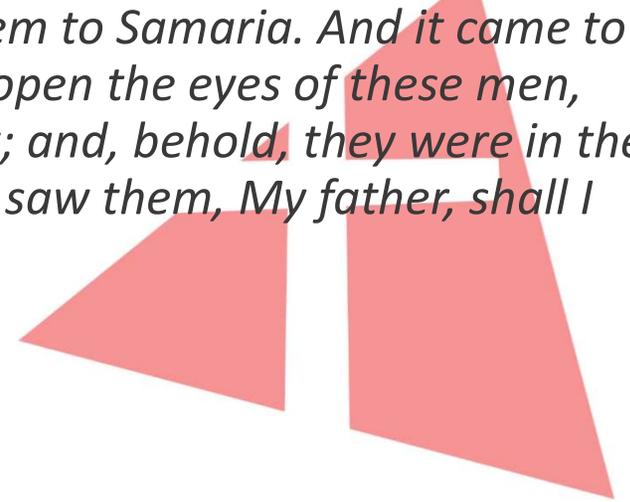
# DIFFERENCE

- Elishah saw the worldly AND the spiritual truth
- God calls us to see worldly truths in light of spiritual truths



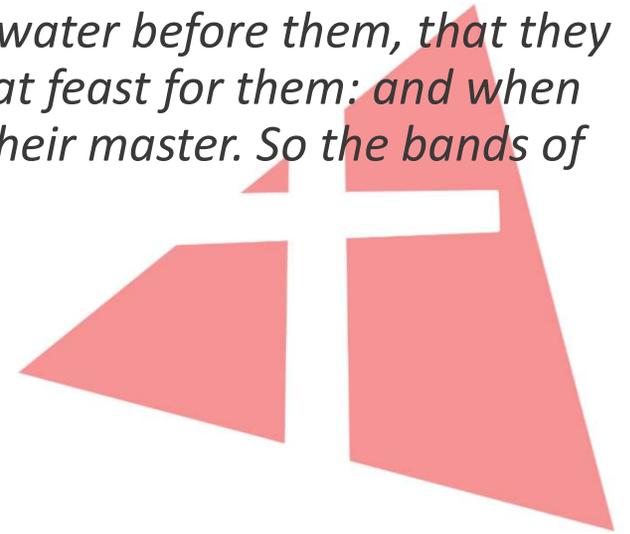
# THE NEXT STEP

*2 Kings 6:18-21 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Strike these people, I pray you, with blindness. And he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek. But he led them to Samaria. And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I slay them? shall I slay them?*



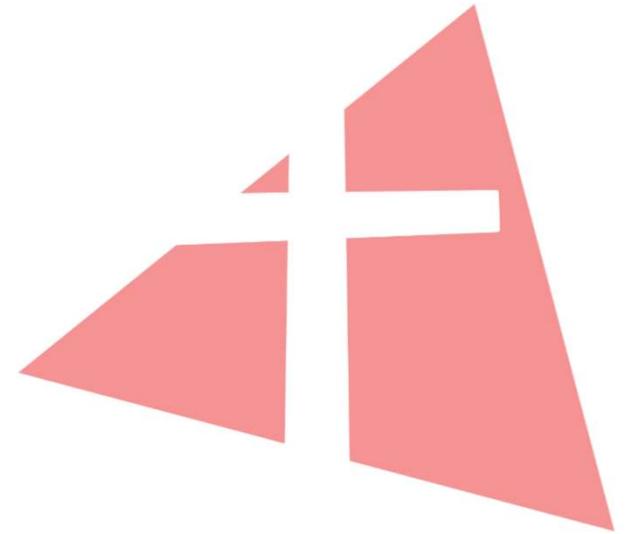
# THE NEXT STEP

*2 Kings 6:22-23 And he answered, You shall not slay them: would you slay those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master. And he prepared a great feast for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.*



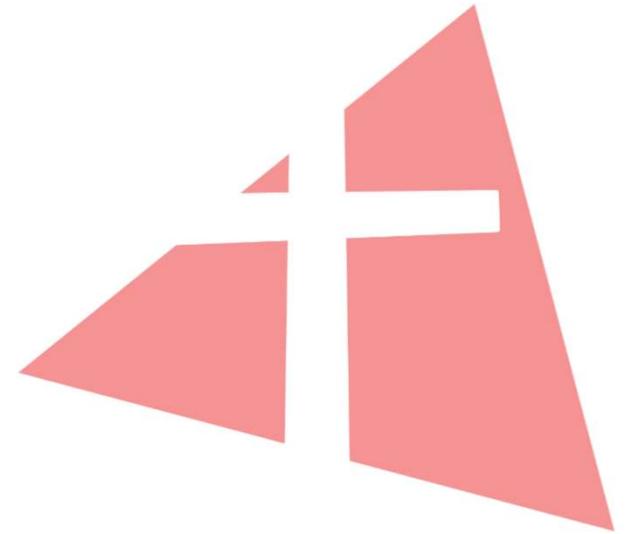
# THE DIFFERENCE

- **The servant only saw worldly realities**
- **The king didn't see the spiritual reality, even after the miracle**
- **Elishah saw both the worldly AND the spiritual reality**



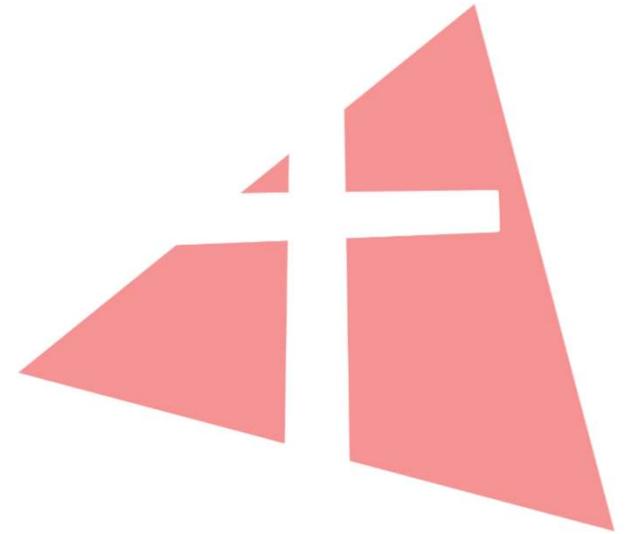
# APPLICATION

- We need to see and acknowledge worldly realities



# APPLICATION

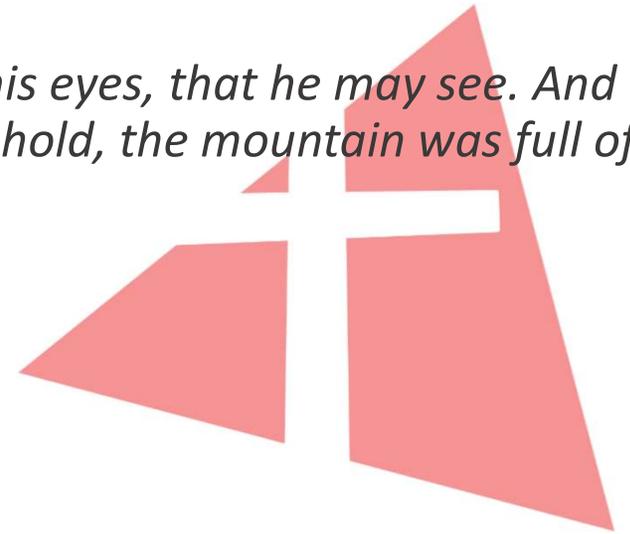
- We need to see worldly realities in light of spiritual realities



# APPLICATION

- **Only God can make us see the spiritual realm**
  - It cannot be shared

*2 Kings 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray you, open his eyes, 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.*



# APPLICATION

- Seeing the miracles from the spiritual realm is different from seeing the spiritual realm



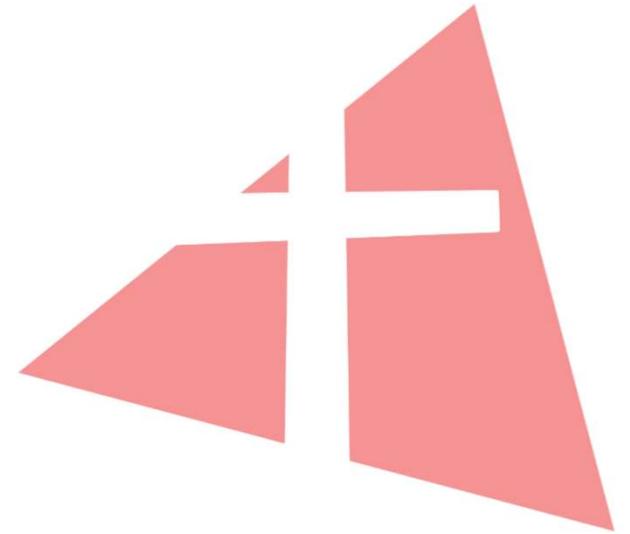
# THE DANGER

- **“Being unrealistic” based on our own wishes and imagination instead of spiritual realities**



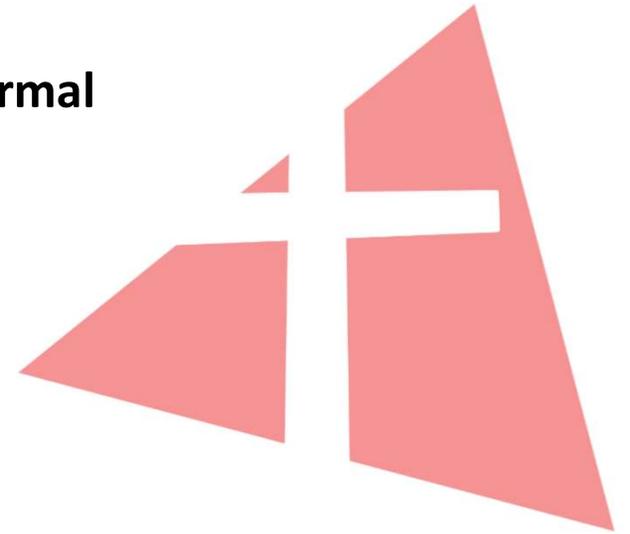
# HOW CAN WE KNOW?

- **We'll get into the "how" throughout the next 2 sermons**
  - Matt. 6: Seeking God first
  - Phil. 4: Prayer to replace anxiety with peace



# IN CONCLUSION

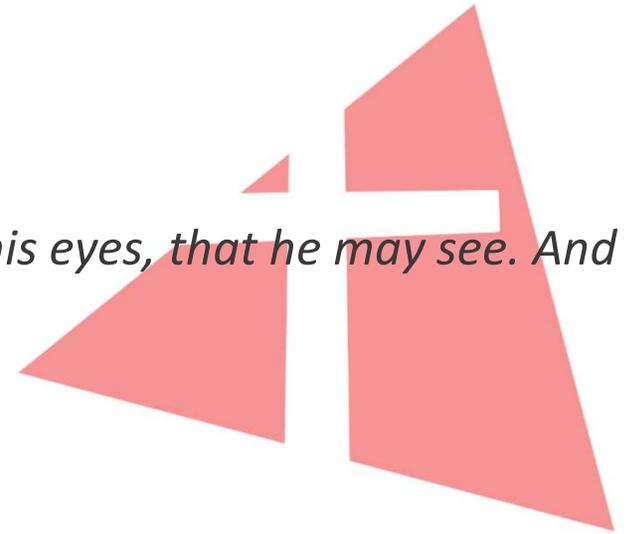
- Being considered “unrealistic” by non-Christians should be normal



# IN CONCLUSION

- **God wants us to be completely realistic**
  - See worldly realities
  - See worldly realities in light of the spiritual reality
- **Only God can give us eyes to see the spiritual reality**

*2 Kings 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray you, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw*



# *Communion*

Remembering His sacrifice.



# CLOSING PRAYER

*Ephesians 3:20-21 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

