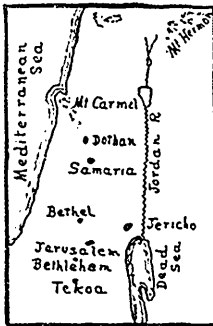


bearer. A great host; of foot soldiers. Com-passed the city about; surrounded it completely, so that no one could go in or out unseen by the besiegers.

15. **Servant**; a personal attendant, the successor of Gehazi, now a wealthy leper (see ch. 5 : 20-27). **Was risen early.** Perhaps something unusual had awakened him, it may have been the noise of the chariots or the alarm raised by the town watchmen. **Alas, my master!** Startled, but in no coward mind to run away from the peril, the servant rouses his chief. **How shall we do?** He saw no way of escape.

III. **ELISHA'S DELIVERANCE.**—16, 17. Fear not. Elisha knew that God would find some way of overcoming the enemies of His prophet and His people. **They . . . with us . . . more than they . . . with them.** Elisha speaks as a man sure of God's protecting hosts whether he can see them with the bodily eye or not. **Elisha prayed**; thus the servant's mind was turned to God as the one real and sufficient protector. **Open his eyes**; make him to see, as with the bodily eye, the heavenly defenders all round about the city. **Horses and chariots of fire**; a picture of the angel host which protects God's people.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



DOTHAN, where Elisha was staying at the time of the Lesson, was an ancient town, standing on the summit of a mound, about 10 miles north of Samaria. The road which passed through it was one of the most frequented highways in the kingdom. The neighborhood of Dothan has always been famous for its springs, and the pasturage is still the best and freshest in time of drought. Farmers still find excellent

grazing for their sheep and goats as did the sons of Jacob long ago. The abundance of drinking water has always made Dothan a favorite halting place for travelers of all sorts.

LESSON QUESTIONS

8 Who was "the king of Syria?" Describe the warfare of Syria with Israel. With whom did Benhadad

take counsel? Which Psalm says that God will laugh at those who take counsel against Him? (Ps. 2 : 4.)

9, 10 What title is given to the prophet in v. 9? Why had Elisha spoken against Jehoram? What warning did he now give? What is said in Ezekiel about the duty of a watchman to give warning? (Ezek. 3 : 17-21.)

11, 12 How did the king of Syria try to discover the traitor? Find the verses of a Psalm which teach us that God knows all our thoughts and words. (Ps. 139 : 2, 4.)

13-15 How was Elisha's servant affected by discovering the Syrian host? Who came to capture Jesus in Gethsemane? (Matt. 26 : 47.)

16, 17 How was the fear of Elisha's servant removed? Which Psalm pictures the angel of the Lord as encamping round about God's people? (Ps. 34 : 7.)

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Is spying an honorable occupation?
2. Should we look upon fear as a sin?

A PRAYER

O God, our shield and defender, open our eyes that we may see Thy glory and know Thy power. Teach us what it means to depend on Thee. In time of anxiety and surprise may we learn how to cast all our care upon Thee, so that we can be at peace in the midst of tumult. Show us how to give testimony for Thee by the trust that is never dismayed. We ask all for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—*That angels minister to us.*

Shorter Catechism—*Ques. 33. What is justification?* A. Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

The Question on Missions—4. Tell about the work of Bible women in our Foreign Mission fields. They go about the country and through the cities and villages reading and teaching the gospel, sometimes in a home or on the street. They are trained in the mission schools, and are sometimes paid by the native church.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise : 457 (Supplemental Lesson), 263, 272, 64 (Ps. Sel.), 273 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 202.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. How was the king of Israel warned against his enemies?

2. Describe the attempt of the Syrian king to capture Elisha.

3. Of what was Elisha's servant afraid and how was his fear removed?

SIGN NAME HERE.....