

of God's protection as if he had seen the heavenly host surrounding him. Lord . . . open his eyes. The servant needed to see his defenders. Then he would be as fearless as Elisha. **Mountain** (the hill on which Dothan was situated) . . . full of horses and chariots of fire. God's forces for defending His prophet took the same form as the besieging army. **When they** (the Syrian army) came down; from the rising ground opposite the hill of Dothan. **With blindness**; not actual loss of sight, or they could not have followed Elisha, but confusion of vision.

19-23. This is not the way; to find Elisha. **I will bring you to the man.** Elisha kept his word, but his enemies found him in Samaria, where they could not take him captive. **Open the eyes of these men**; to see themselves in the power of Israel's king. The king desires to slay them. This Elisha prevents. At his command they are freed and sent back to their own land.

DAILY READINGS

M.—Elisha at Dothan, 2 King's 6: 8-23. T.—The circling arm, Ps. 125. W.—Confidence in God, Ps. 27. Th.—A safe refuge, Ps. 91. F.—God with us, 2 Chron. 32: 1-8. S.—Who against us? Rom. 8: 24-32. S.—Fearless trust, Ps. 118: 1-14.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 273; 293; 65 (Ps. Sel.); 278; 273 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 320.

Shorter Catechism—*Ques. 48. What are we specially taught by these words [before me] in the first commandment?* A. These words [before me] in the first commandment teach us, That God, who seeth all things, taketh notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other God.

Prove from Scripture—*That the Lord protects His people.*

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—By whom was the land of Israel invaded?

8-10 What king is mentioned here? Against whom did he make war? Why was this ungrateful? Who discovered the Syrians' plans? To whom did he tell them?

11, 12 Why was the king troubled? What did he ask? The answer?

13-15 Where was Elisha living? Who were sent to capture him? Who was greatly of aid?

16-23 Why was Elisha not afraid? What did he ask for his servant? Tell what the servant saw. Whither was the Syrian army led?

Seniors and the Home Department—Where is Dothan? What event in the life of Joseph occurred at this place? Give the reference to a Syrian invasion in last Lesson.

8-12 Who was king of Israel now? How did Elisha regard him? Why did the prophet send him information? How should we feel toward our country? (Ps. 137: 5, 6.)

13-15 Why was so large a force sent to capture Elisha? Who were sent to take Jesus prisoner? (Mark 14: 43.)

16-18 How were the Syrians brought into the power of Elisha? Explain his promise, v. 19. Describe the treatment of the Syrians. Which disciple did our Lord rebuke for violence? (John 18: 11.)

Seek Further Questions—Where did our Lord refuse to ask for angels to protect Him? What disciples had their eyes "holden" for a time?

Topics for Brief Papers—(To be ready on the day of the lesson.) 1. Elisha, a true patriot. 2. God's protection of his faithful servants.

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. The good Christian is a good citizen. His country's honor is dear to him. With voice and vote he fights the evils that injure its life. Its welfare has a large place in his plans.

2. There is One who knows the very thoughts and intents of our hearts. The old negro melody brings comfort to the honest Christian, but dismay to the evil-minded and the hypocrite:

"He hears all you say,
He sees all you do,
My Lord keeps writing all the time."

3. Once a man of God fleeing from his persecutors, took refuge in a cave. Immediately a spider began to spin its web over the entrance. Seeing this, the pursuers did not look within. The saint, when he came out, said: "Where God is, a spider's web is as a wall; where He is not, a wall is as a spider's web."

4. Take up the debate of the king and the prophet, "Which is the greater conqueror Love or the Sword." Leave the Bible out because that settles it; but call on experience, observation, and history for proof, and see if the prophet does not get the verdict.

5. Faith is a sixth sense. It makes God and heaven real to us. By it we behold Jesus Christ, our Elder Brother, walking at our side. And like our outward senses, faith is strengthened by exercise.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. How did Elisha defeat the plans of the Syrians?

2. At what was the servant terrified?

3. How was his terror removed?