



The Greater Immanuel Faith Temple—The GIFT
GIFT BOX Outline
Wednesday, January 8, 2025
RAISE THE STANDARD!



PERSPECTIVE:
Overcoming Barriers, Blindness, & Boundaries!
II Kings 6:8-23 (NKJV)

⁸Now the king of Aram was making war against Israel; and he consulted with his servants, saying, “In such and such a place shall be my camp.”

⁹But the man of God sent *word* to the king of Israel, saying, “Be careful that you do not pass this place, because the Arameans are coming down there.”

¹⁰And the king of Israel sent *scouts* to the place about which the man of God had told him; so he warned him, so that he was on his guard there, more than once or twice.

¹¹Now the heart of the king of Aram was enraged over this matter; and he called his servants and said to them, “Will you not tell me which of us is for the king of Israel?”

¹²One of his servants said, “No, my lord, the king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom.”

¹³So he said, “Go and see where he is, so that I may send *men* and take him.” And it was told to him, saying, “Behold, *he is* in Dothan.”

¹⁴So he sent horses and chariots and a substantial army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

I. The Context

- A. The king of Aram's strategy and plots against Israel
- B. Elisha's divine insight to warn the king of Israel

¹⁵Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, “This is hopeless, my master! What are we to do?”

¹⁶And he said, “Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are greater than those who are with them.”

¹⁷Then Elisha prayed and said, “Lord, please, open his eyes so that he may see.” And the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

¹⁸And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, “Please strike this people with blindness.” So He struck them with blindness in accordance with the word of Elisha.

¹⁹Then Elisha said to them, “This is not the way, nor is this the city; follow me and I will bring you to the man whom you seek.” And he brought them to Samaria.

²⁰When they had come into Samaria, Elisha said, “LORD, open the eyes of these *men*, so that they may see.” So the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and behold, *they were* in the midst of Samaria.

²¹Then the king of Israel when he saw them, said to Elisha, “My father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?”

²²But he answered, “You shall not kill *them*. Would you kill those whom you have taken captive with your sword and your bow? Set bread and water before them, so that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.”

C. The servant's perspective: Seeing the enemy's army and feeling overwhelmed.

II. The Considerations

A. The difference between PERSPECTIVE and PERCEPTION.

Perspective is:

Perception is:

B. The importance of PERSPECTIVE over PERCEPTION.

Perception incites: **FEAR**
FAITHLESSNESS
FAILURE

Perspective yields: **RESOLVE**

REVELATION

RESOURCES

III. The Power of God’s Perspective

A. God’s strategy.

B. The enemy’s surrender.

C. The victor’s spoils.

²³So he provided a large feast for them; and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the marauding bands of Arameans did not come again into the land of Israel.

A. The real success.

III. Developing a Proper Perspective

- A. Recognize our barriers.
 - 1. Identifying fears, challenges, and obstacles in our lives.
 - 2. Eliminate our blind spots.

- B. Shift our focus to God's presence and power.
 - 1. Strategies for cultivating a faith-filled perspective:
 - a. Prayer and seeking God's wisdom.
 - b. Studying Scripture to remind us of His promises.
 - c. Surrounding ourselves with supportive community.

- C. Practicing gratitude and trust in God's sovereignty
 - 1. Learning to see beyond the immediate situation.
 - 2. Trusting God's greater plan for our lives.

***What barriers are you currently facing,
and how might a shift in perspective help?***

PHYSICAL HEALTH	SPIRITUAL HEALTH	RELATIONAL HEALTH

What is God's perspective on these barriers?

How have your eyes been opened by this study session?

What will you do differently considering having a new perspective on your journey?

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