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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
Alexandria, Virginia**

In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we may hear Your Word and transform (Change) our lives.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

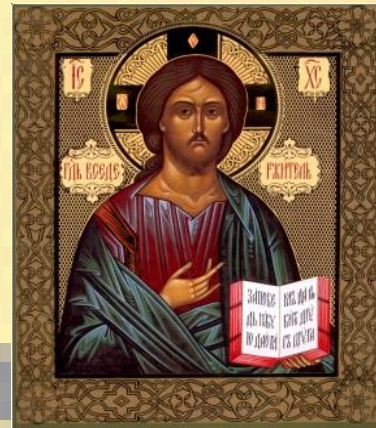
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.



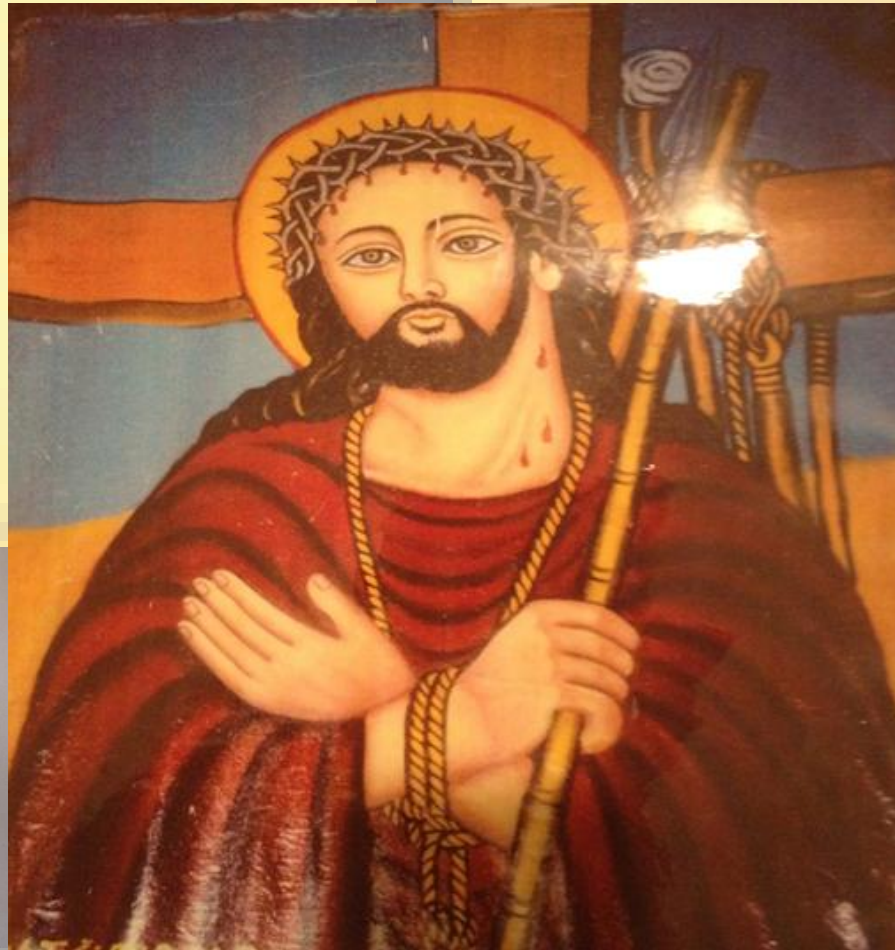
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**



MEMORY VERSE

**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**



Review

1. During the time of King Ahab, people who refused to worship Baal were persecuted or driven out of the country.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
2. The prophet Elijah warned the people there would be no rain
 - a) so that they could store up grain in advance.
 - b) to show Israel that they were serving a dead god.
3. When the drought continued for a long time, the people began to believe that Elijah must be a mighty prophet of God.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

Review

4. Which man was truly troubling Israel?
 - a) Elijah.
 - b) King Ahab.

5. Elijah told the King to gather all the people and the prophets of Baal together on
 - a) Mt. Zion.
 - b) Mt. Carmel.

6. Why couldn't the people answer Elijah's challenge about following God or Baal?
 - a) Sin had blinded their eyes and made their ears slow to hear.
 - b) They were too tired after climbing up the mountain.

Review

7. What would be the proof to determine which god was the living God?
 - a) He would blot out the light of the sun.
 - b) He would burn up his sacrifice with fire.

8. When Baal could not answer the prayers of his prophets, Elijah rebuilt the broken altar of the Lord and laid a sacrifice on it.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

9. Did the Lord God of Israel respond to Elijah's prayer to burn up the sacrifice?
 - a) Yes.
 - b) No.

10. What happened when the people turned back to God?
 - a) God punished them for their disobedience.
 - b) God blessed the people with a great rain.




Recite Last week's memory verse

**“As the Lord the God of Israel lives, there will
be neither dew nor rain these years except by
my word”**

(1Kings 17:1)



Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

Elisha and the Syrian Army



November 03, 2013

Memorize today's Verse

“If God is for us, who can be against us?”

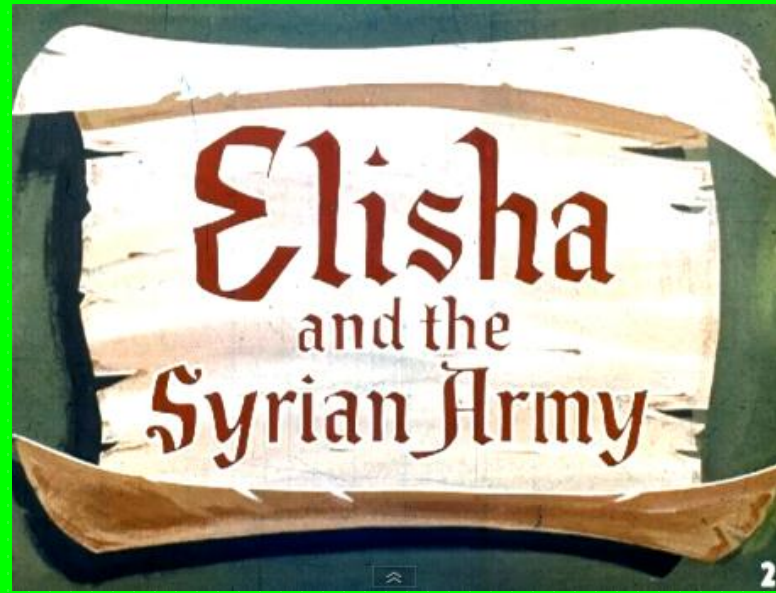
(Romans 8:31)

Practice this verse again during the week.



Purpose:

To teach confidence in God's power to deliver us from our enemies.



- ▶ **A prophet is a man of God that brings messages from God to the people.**
- ▶ **A prophet can also inform people of things that will happen in the future that are revealed to him/her by God.**

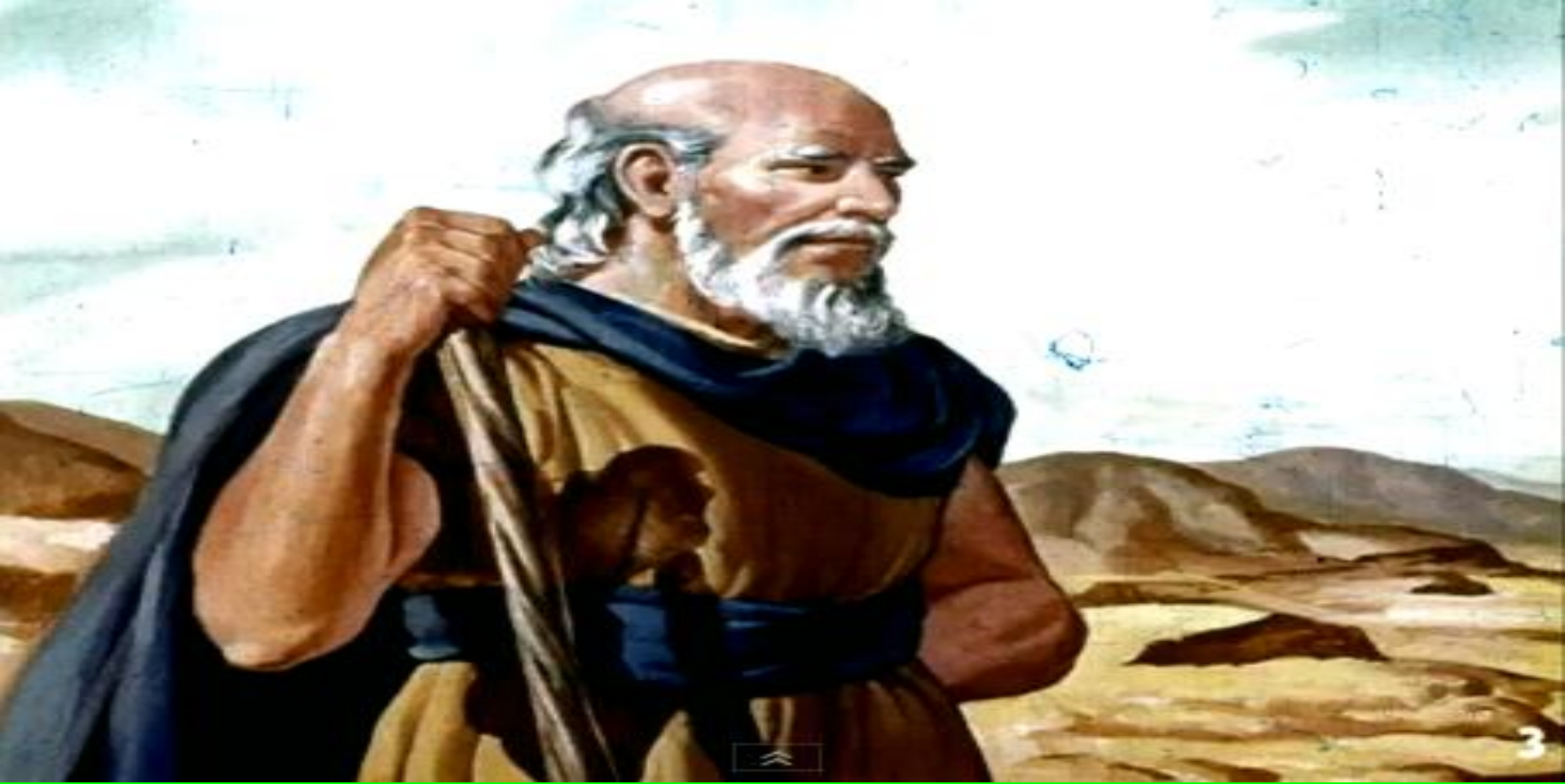




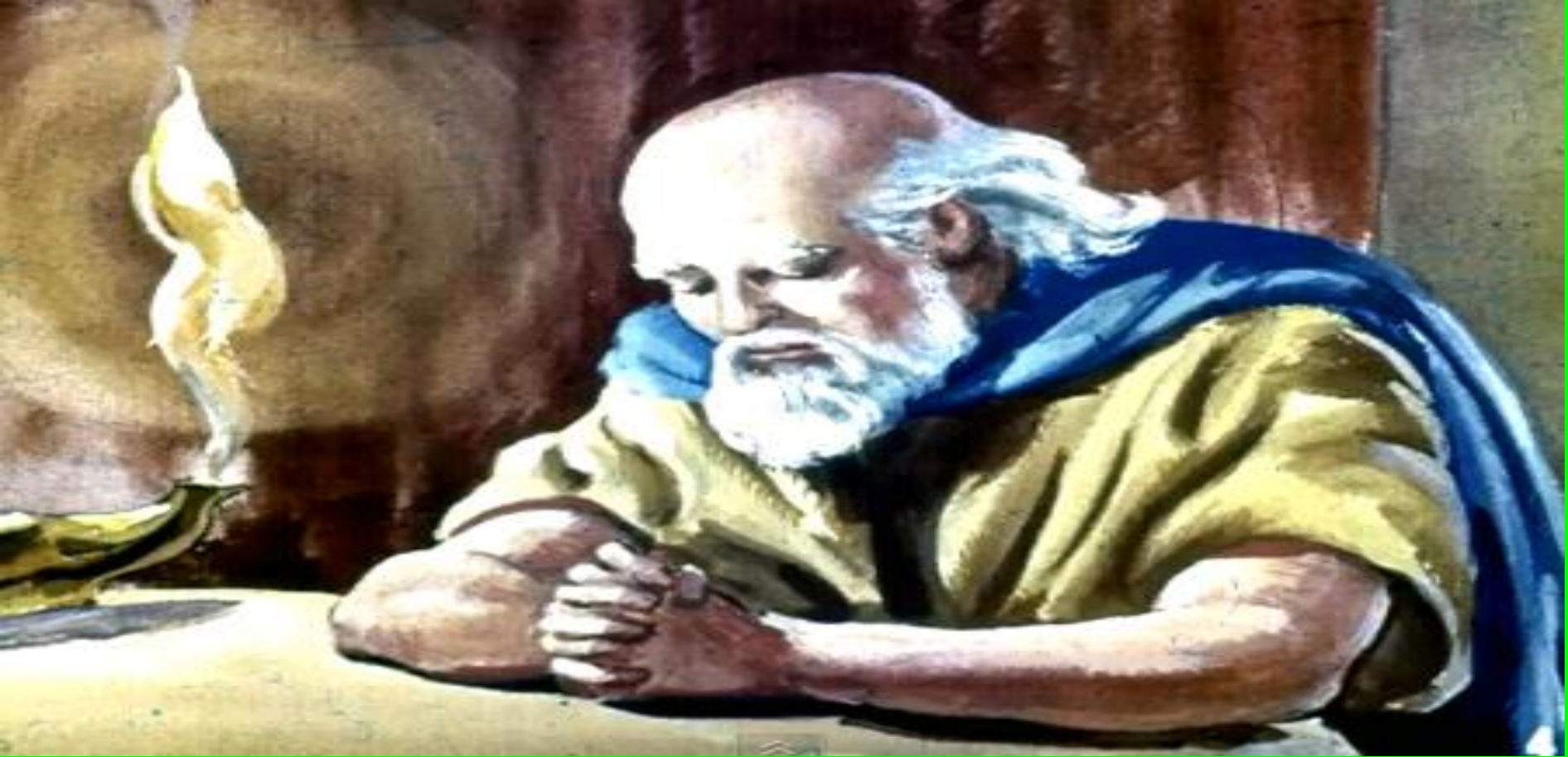
850 years before Christ, Elijah passed on his mantle to his servant Elisha. It was time for Elijah to go to heaven so Elisha took over.



And Elijah was taken to heaven in a whirlwind in a chariot of fire. Elijah was one of the prophets who never tested death and was taken to heaven alive.



Elisha was a great prophet who lived long ago in the land of Israel. He taught the people to worship God and to obey God's laws.



In his house at Dothan, Elisha often knelt to talk to the Lord and listen to His word. There he prayed that the Israelites might be protected from their fierce enemies, the Syrians.



For a long time Benhadad, the cruel king of Syria, had been at war with the people of Israel.



Now he planned a surprise attack which he hoped would crush them once and for all.



With his mighty, well equipped army ready to fight he was sure that this time they could wipe out Israel's army.



He called the captains of his army together and they carefully planned where they would camp and how they would trap the unsuspecting Israelite army.



King Benhadad warned his men that not a word must leak out. The whole success of their plan depended on secrecy, and a surprise attack.

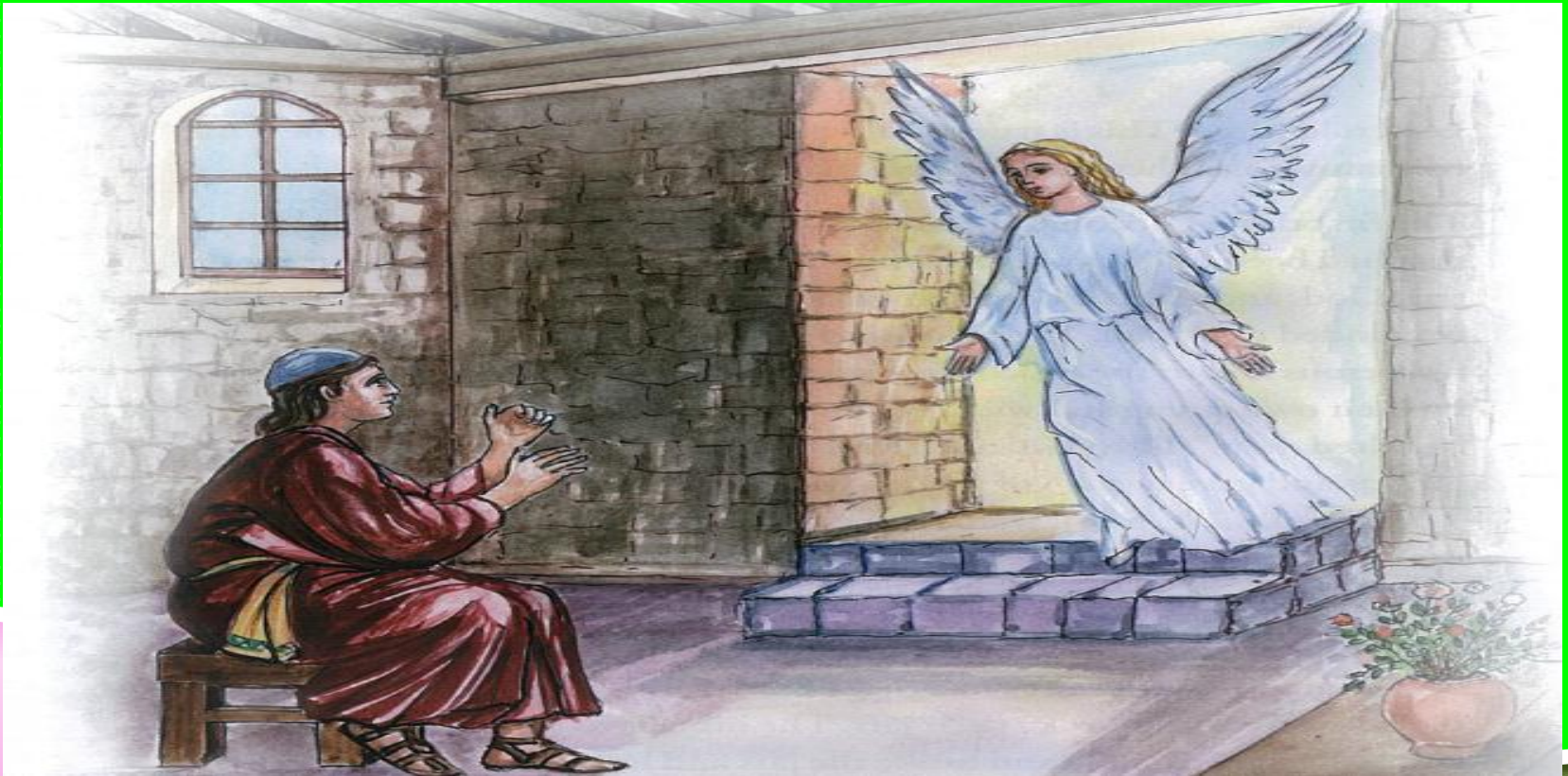


While the Syrians secretly plotted, Elisha stood quietly by the window of his house. Then he called his servant, and said to him:



“Go at once to our king and warn him that the king of Syria is planning a surprise attack on our army.” Elisha was able to explain just where the Syrians would be lying in wait, for God had told his prophet Elisha of the Syrian plans.

Who tells Elisha the secrets? The answer is the Holy Spirit through the angles. A good example of how the Spirit of God works is described in the Bible Acts 8: 26-29



Acts 8:26-40

Christ Is Preached to an Ethiopian

Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”

So it is the Holy Spirit through His angels that tells the Saints the secrets or what to do in particular situation.

Only those who are mature in faith can hear and discern the promptings of the Spirit. Those of lesser faith are prompted more directly by words and angels.



The young servant raced down the long, dusty road from Dothan to Samaria with the message for the king of Israel.



He was allowed to see the king as soon as he arrived, because the king knew Elisha was a true prophet of God. And when the servant told him about the Syrian plot, the king sent orders to the captains of his army.



In the meantime the Syrian army reached the place where they planned to hide. They moved cautiously as they hid among the shrubs and trees. They thought that soon the king and the army of Israel would pass close by. But they waited, and waited, and nothing happened.



At last the captain of the Syrian army sent a messenger back to Benhadad to tell him they had waited for hours without seeing a sign of the Israelite army. “Strange!” Benhadad muttered. So he made new plans, making doubly sure to keep them secret.



Again the Syrian armies hid and waited, while their scouts kept a watch on the road, but there was no cloud of dust raised by approaching horses and chariots.



The king was furious when their plans failed again and again. “There is a traitor in the camp! Which of you is giving our secrets to Israel?” The captains covered in fear, but then one of the soldiers remembered about Elisha and his power to work miracles.



“There is a prophet in Israel named Elisha. Nothing is hid from him. He knows everything that’s going on, even before it happens!”



Now Benhadad had heard of Elisha and the God he served. He thought that if only he could take Elisha prisoner the prophet would be powerless, and they could carry out their plans. So he sent spies to the land of Samaria.



Finally, one of them found Elisha's house in Dothan, and stood outside the window. Was that the old man who knew all their secrets and told them to the king of Israel? Benhadad wouldn't need an army to take him prisoner.



But Benhadad ordered a great host of soldiers with chariots and horses to move under the cover of darkness and capture Elisha.



Very early the next morning Elisha's young servant went to the window to open the shutters and he stared in wonder at the sight that greeted his eyes.



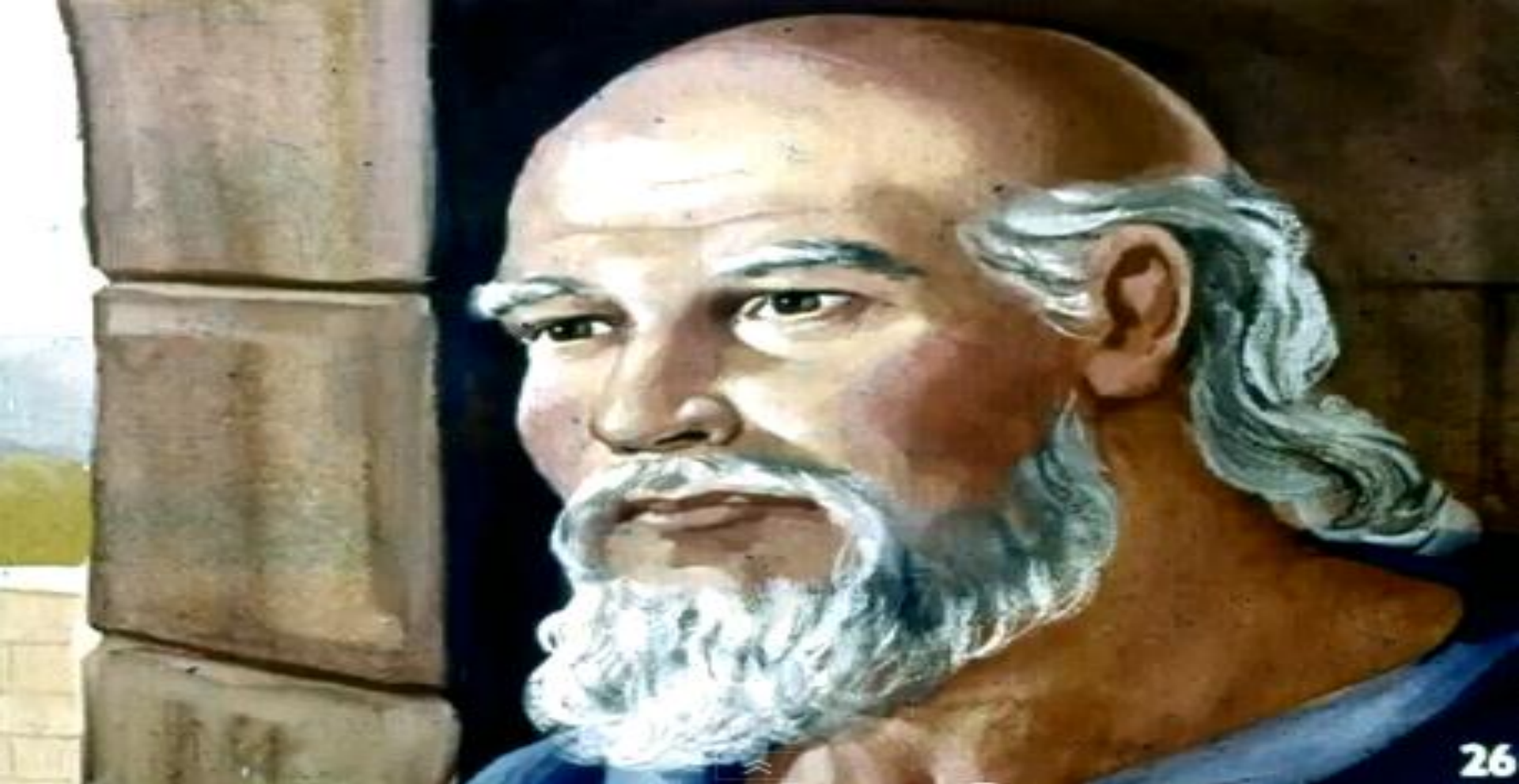
A great army surrounded the city. The morning sun shone on an array of shields and spears. There were chariots and horses as far as he could see!



It was the enemy, the Syrian army! Could it be that this time Elisha hadn't known they were coming?



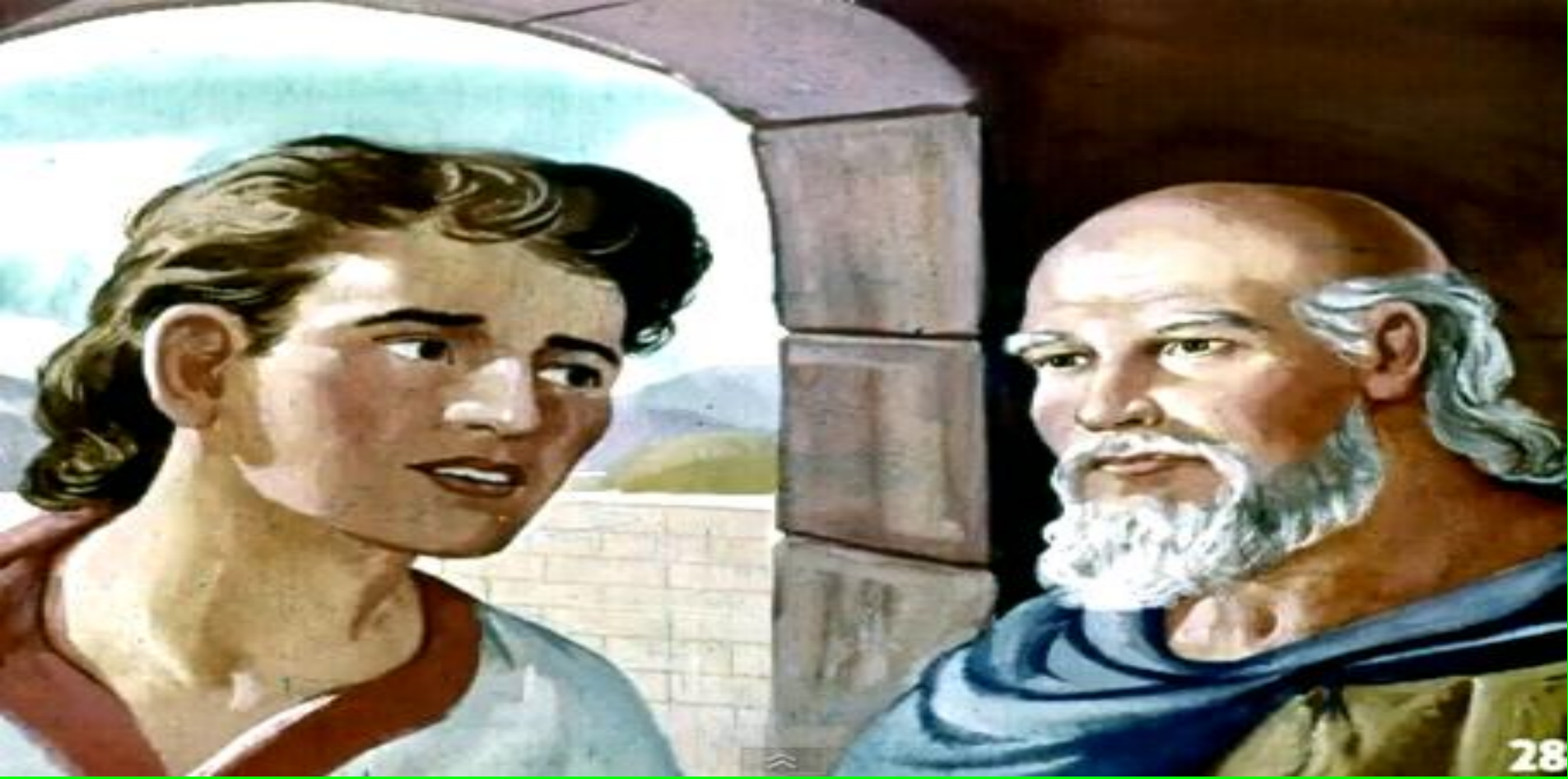
“Alas, master, what can we do?” the young man cried. There wasn’t a chance of escape. The Syrians surrounded them, every road and gate was blocked.



But Elisha didn't even look worried. He said, "Fear not." They that be with us are more than they that be with them."



The servant stared at him. What was Elisha talking about? They were just two defenseless men against a whole army!



Then Elisha said, “With them is the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God.” Then Elisha prayed that God would open his servant’s eyes. “Go and look out of the window again.” The young man looked...



The enemy was still there, but now he saw horses and chariots of fire standing ready to defend Elisha. Then, fearlessly, Elisha walked into the midst of the whole Syrian army.



“Smite them with blindness!” he prayed. Suddenly a terrifying darkness fell upon the soldiers. They didn’t know where they were; they couldn’t see the city or the sky or the trees.



Men shouted in fear and bewilderment, their ranks breaking in panic. “You are going the wrong way. Follow me,” Elisha told them quietly.



He led them right into the city of Samaria and then he prayed that their sight might be restored. The Syrians looked around in fear and terror; they were surrounded by the menacing spears of the Israelite army!



Excitedly King Joram sent for Elisha. What an opportunity! The whole Syrian army his prisoners! But he didn't dare act without Elisha's consent.



“Shall we kill them?” he asked. But Elisha would not permit the Syrian prisoners to be killed.



Instead, he told King Joram to feed the enemy soldiers, and a great feast was set before them. And when they were refreshed...



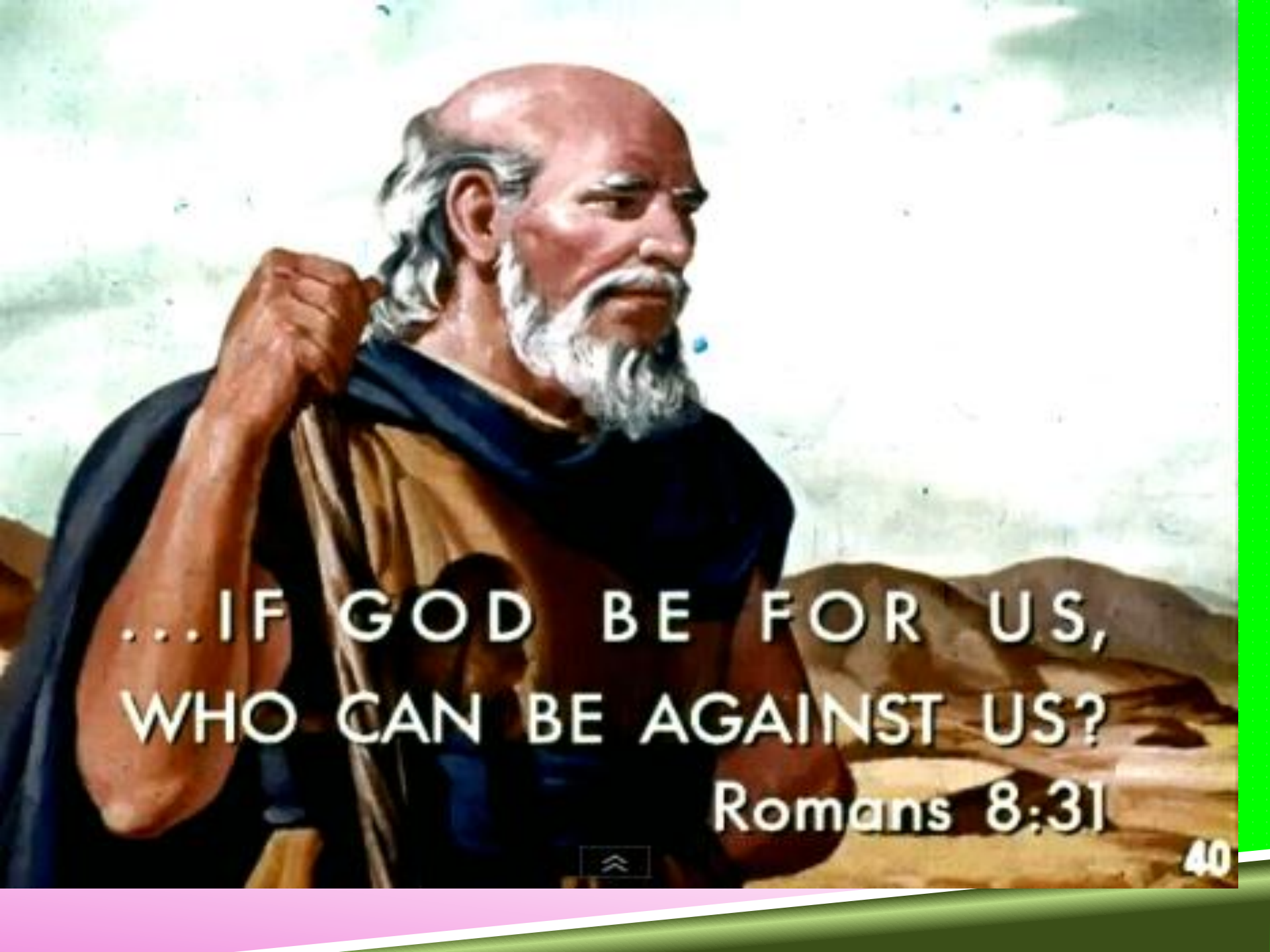
...they were sent back to King Benhadad, so that he would come to know about the power, wisdom and mercy of God.



And Elisha's young servant also learned a lesson that day.



As we see the faith that Elisha had in the Lord, and his unfailing confidence in God's power, we should remember that God never changes. He is just as able to protect us today. We should never be afraid, for the Bible says:



...IF GOD BE FOR US,
WHO CAN BE AGAINST US?

Romans 8:31



Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.



Pop Quiz



1. What did the prophet Elisha pray?
 - a) That all the people of Israel would become rich.
 - b) That the Israelites might be protected from their enemies, the Syrians.

2. What did King Benhadad of Syria plan to do?
 - a) To attack Israel by surprise.
 - b) To hold a great feast in his capital city.

3. How was Elisha able to know in advance the plans of the king of Syria?
 - a) God had told Elisha of the Syrian plans.
 - b) Elisha had a group of very wise advisors.

Pop Quiz



4. When the king of Israel received the warning message from Elisha he did not believe it.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

5. When King Benhadad's plan did not work the first time, he gave up trying to attack Israel.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

6. King Benhadad learned that Elisha was the man who knew his secret plans ahead of time.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

Pop Quiz



7. How did King Benhadad plan to capture Elisha?
 - a) By sending a small group of soldiers to Elisha's home.
 - b) By sending his whole Syrian army to surround Elisha's house.
8. The prophet Elisha brought down fire from heaven that destroyed the Syrian army.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
9. Why did Elisha instruct King Joram to feed the enemy soldiers and send them back home safely?
 - a) So that King Benhadad would come to know about the power and wisdom and mercy of God.
 - b) So that the enemy army would not try to attack Israel again.
10. God is just as able to protect us today as He did Elisha.
 - a) True.
 - b) False

The End

Next Week

We will learn about **The Healing of Naaman** .



3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)





*“And you shall know
the truth, and the
truth shall make you
free.” John 8:32*

Any question?

Close with prayer.

