

# 2 Kings 6:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

## Analysis

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**And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 6: God's protection and provision for His servants. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 6 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Miracles and Siege) reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles

while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## **Related Passages**

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 6 regarding god's protection and provision for his servants?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיָּרְדּוּ	אֱלֹהֵי	וַתִּפֹּל ל	אֶלְיָשָׁע:	אֶל	יְהוָה
And when they came down	H413	prayed	of Elisha	H413	unto the LORD
H3381		H6419	H477		H3068
וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיִּכּוֹת	אֶת	הָעָם	הַזֶּה	
and said	And he smote	H4994	H853	this people	H2088
H559	H5221		H1471		
בְּסִנּוּר יָם	וַיִּכּוֹת	בְּסִנּוּר יָם			
I pray thee with blindness	And he smote	I pray thee with blindness			
H5575	H5221	H5575			
כַּדְּבָר	אֶלְיָשָׁע:				
according to the word	of Elisha				
H1697	H477				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 13:11** (References Lord): And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

**John 12:40** (Parallel theme): He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

**Genesis 19:11** (Parallel theme): And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

**John 9:39** (Parallel theme): And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

