

# Personal/Small Group Sermon Study

Week of May 28, 2023 A.D.

## Do We Live By Faith? Or, Do We Live By Sight?

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

### Read 2 Kings 6:8-18

1. Do you believe that this story is absolutely 100% true in every detail? If not, why not? If so, why?
2. What enabled Elisha to see what Elisha's servant could not see? Who gave the servant the ability to eventually see what Elisha was seeing? Please state in your own words what God wants us to know, understand, believe, and do in response to what is written in this passage of the Bible.

### Read Daniel 10:4-14

3. In your opinion: (a) Who or what is the "man dressed in linen" who is described in verses 5 - 6? (b) Why did the men who were with Daniel not see the vision also (v. 7)? (c) Who is the prince of the Persian kingdom (see v. 13)? (d) Who is Michael and why did he arrive on the scene?
4. Do you believe that there is a supernatural, unseen world which co-exists with the physical, visible world in which we live? If so (a) why? and (b) what is the purpose or reason for that "unseen world"?

### Read Hebrews 13:1-2

5. In your opinion: (a) Is it wise to entertain strangers in your home? (b) Does God want us to obey these verses? (c) If the "host" did not know that the guest was an angel, what could have been the purpose for the visit? (d) Why are these verses in the Bible?

### Read Matthew 13:53-58

6. Do you believe that God is still at work throughout and among the various cultures and countries in the world? If not, why not? If so, (a) does that "work" include miracles and other supernatural events which are beyond human explanation? (b) please give the details of any such event which you have experienced. (c) why do we (or why do we not) see many "miracles" in America?

## Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

7. Why is it necessary for a Christian to be “inwardly renewed day by day”? How does this renewal happen?
8. What are the “seen” things on which your life is focused daily? What are the “unseen” things on which your life is focused daily? Do you devote more of your time and energy to embracing (a) what is seen or (b) what is unseen? Why?
9. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “In order to become the person that God wants me to be, I must stop embracing the things that are temporary and become fully committed to embracing the things that are eternal.”

## Read Luke 12:27-31

10. Does it take “faith” to believe (a) in what you can physically see? and/or (b) in what you cannot physically see? Are the size and the object of your faith important to Jesus? If so, why? If not, why not?
11. Is worry a sin? Does God expect His children to focus entirely on Him with little or no concern about our physical needs? If so, why and what are the benefits of doing so? If not, why and what are the benefits of not doing so?
12. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “My life would be more fulfilling and more joyful if I were to stop trying to satisfy “my physical needs” and, instead, devote my time and resources to loving and serving God and to loving and serving people.”

**Consider:** Jesus said to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness (which are unseen) and then all your physical needs (which are seen) will be given to you as well. Do you trust Jesus to meet all of your physical needs? Does Jesus expect you to stop embracing the value system of this temporary world and to more fully embrace the value system of eternity? If so, how are you going to do it? When are you going to do it? “You think about that.” Amen.