

ELISHA



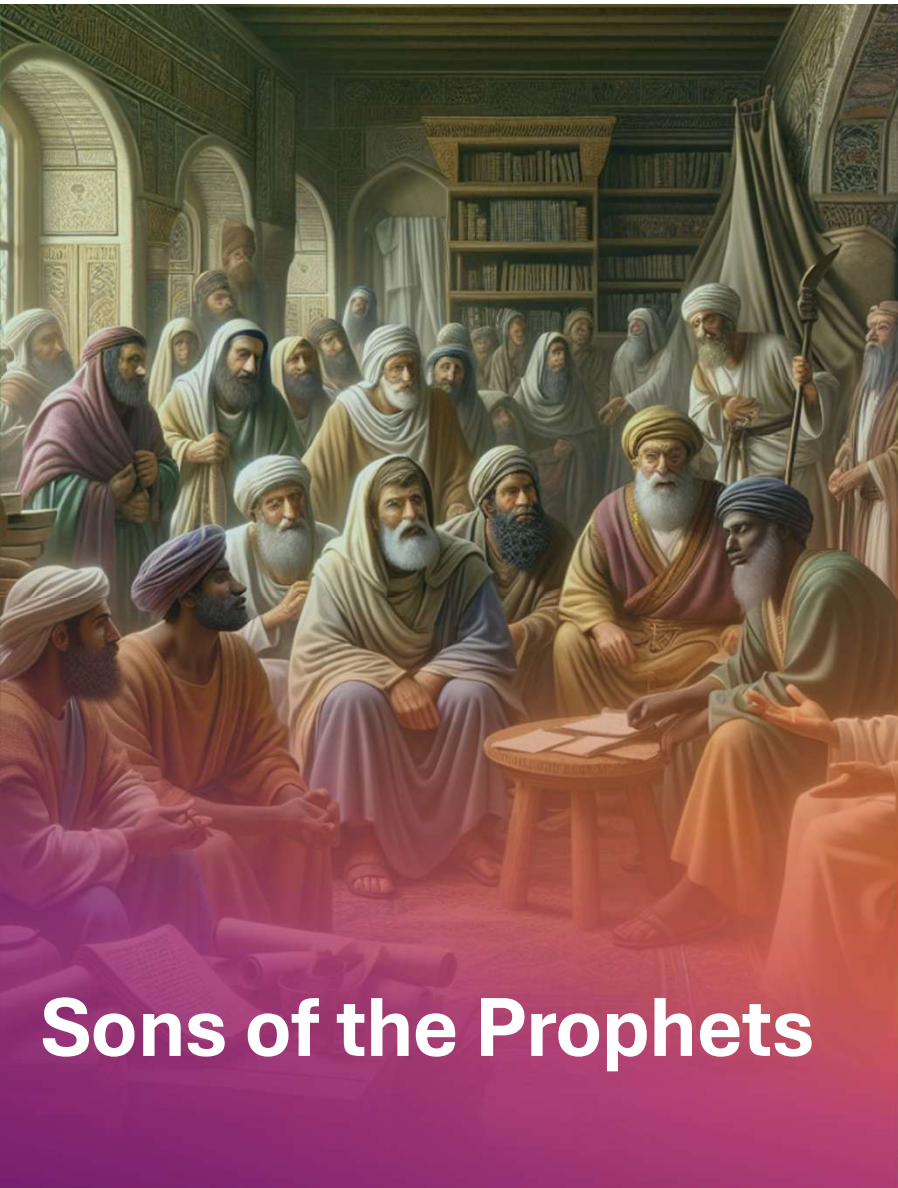
Death and Judgement

Message #3



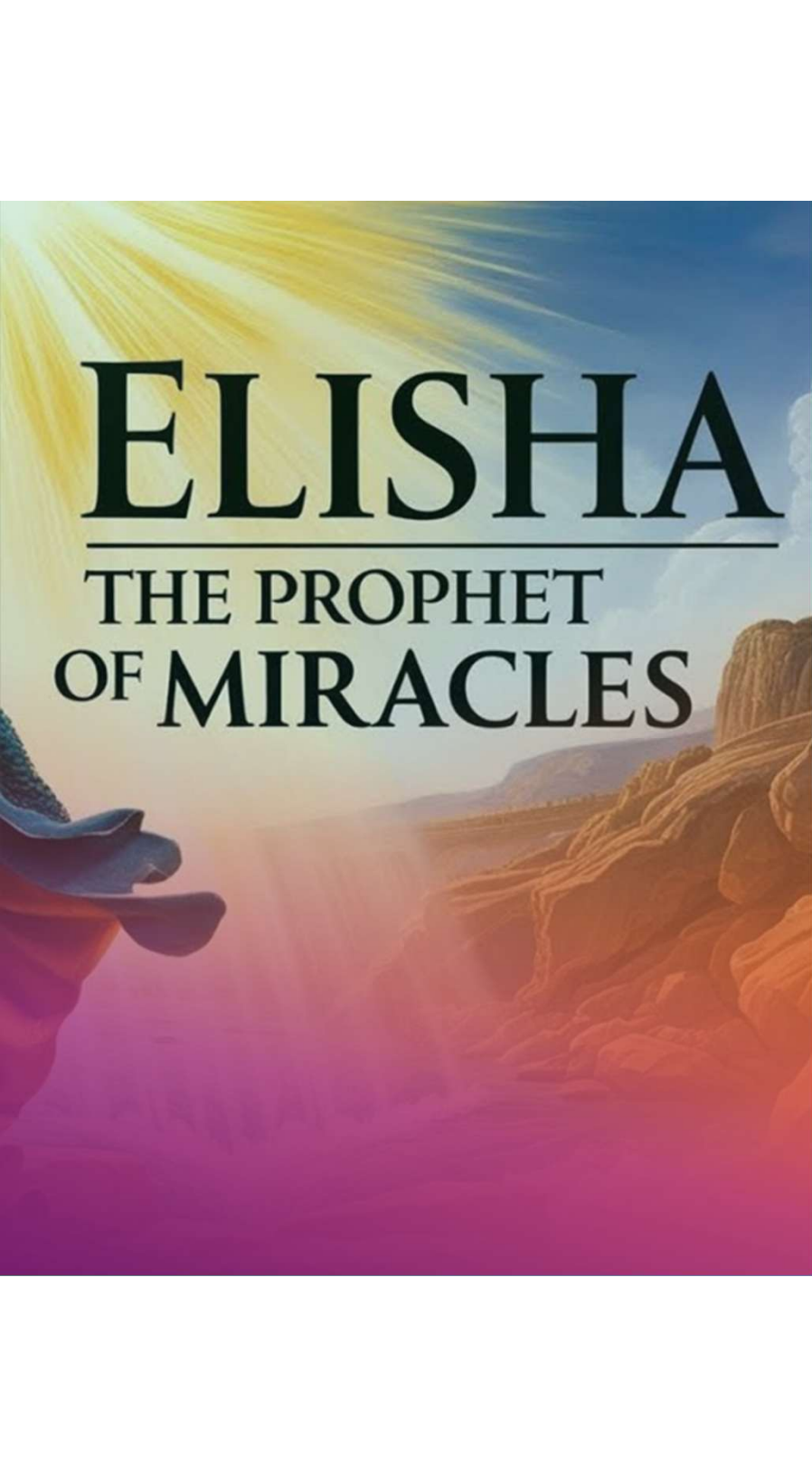


- We have been studying the teaching of Elijah and Elisha, a prophetic people, a prophetic church.
- We have covered six miracles so far by Elisha.
 - **Message #1**
 - He healed the waters of Jericho.
 - He brought the bears out of the woods in judgement.
 - He provided water for the three kings.
 - **Message #2**
 - He provided oil for the widow.
 - He provided a son for the Shunammite woman.
 - He raised her son from the dead and restored her son.
 - He gave the son back to the mother.
 - It's time the son be given back to the church (the woman).



Sons of the Prophets

- We will begin this message in 2 Kings 4:38.
 - And Elisha came again to **Gilgal**: and *there was a dearth* (hunger, famine) in the land; and the **sons of the prophets** were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant (Gehazi), Set on the great (large boiling) pot, and seethe (boil up, cook) pottage for the sons of the prophets.
- Remember back in our Elijah series we talked about Elisha being at Gilgal with Elijah before the translation.
- We know they were in school because the **sons of the prophets** were there.
- Again, we see a difference in Elijah and Elisha. Elijah was a loner. Elisha was relational. He was among the **sons of the prophets** teaching them as a prophet and as a father providing for them.



ELISHA

THE PROPHET OF MIRACLES

- All of these miracles were not for show.
- They had a **specific purpose** and each one is a picture of Jesus and what he has accomplished for us.
- 2 Kings 8:1 says that there was going to be **famine** in the land for **seven years**.
 - David said, “They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.” Psalms 37:19
- God takes care of his people. The sovereign God takes care of and watches over his own.



- Now it is interesting in that the servant, Gehazi, was the one cooking the stew.
- If you remember from our last message, we learned that **Gehazi lacked discernment**. And here he is again not discerning.
- Gehazi did not discern there was a **deadly gourd in the stew**. He just let anybody throw anything they wanted to into the pot.
- Some churches are like that. They just let anybody come in and preach and anybody get in their pulpits and sing and testify.
- An open pulpit can be disastrous to a people.
- A real pastor is a Shepherd who protects his flock and does not let the wolves come in.

- And one (of these young men) went out into the field (the world) to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds (wild cucumbers) his lap full, and came and shred *them* into the pot of pottage: for they knew *them* not. 2 Kings 4:39
- Jesus said in Matthew 13:38, “The field is the world.”
- One of the young men went out to gather herbs or plants and look what he found, a WILD vine.
- The servant Gehazi, who was cooking the stew did not discern the gourds were wild.
- He gathered wild gourds, wild cucumbers, put them in his lap, his garment. He got a shaw full of them. He came and shred them, cut them, sliced them into the pot, for he knew them not.
 - They were ignorant and did not realize they were **poisonous**.



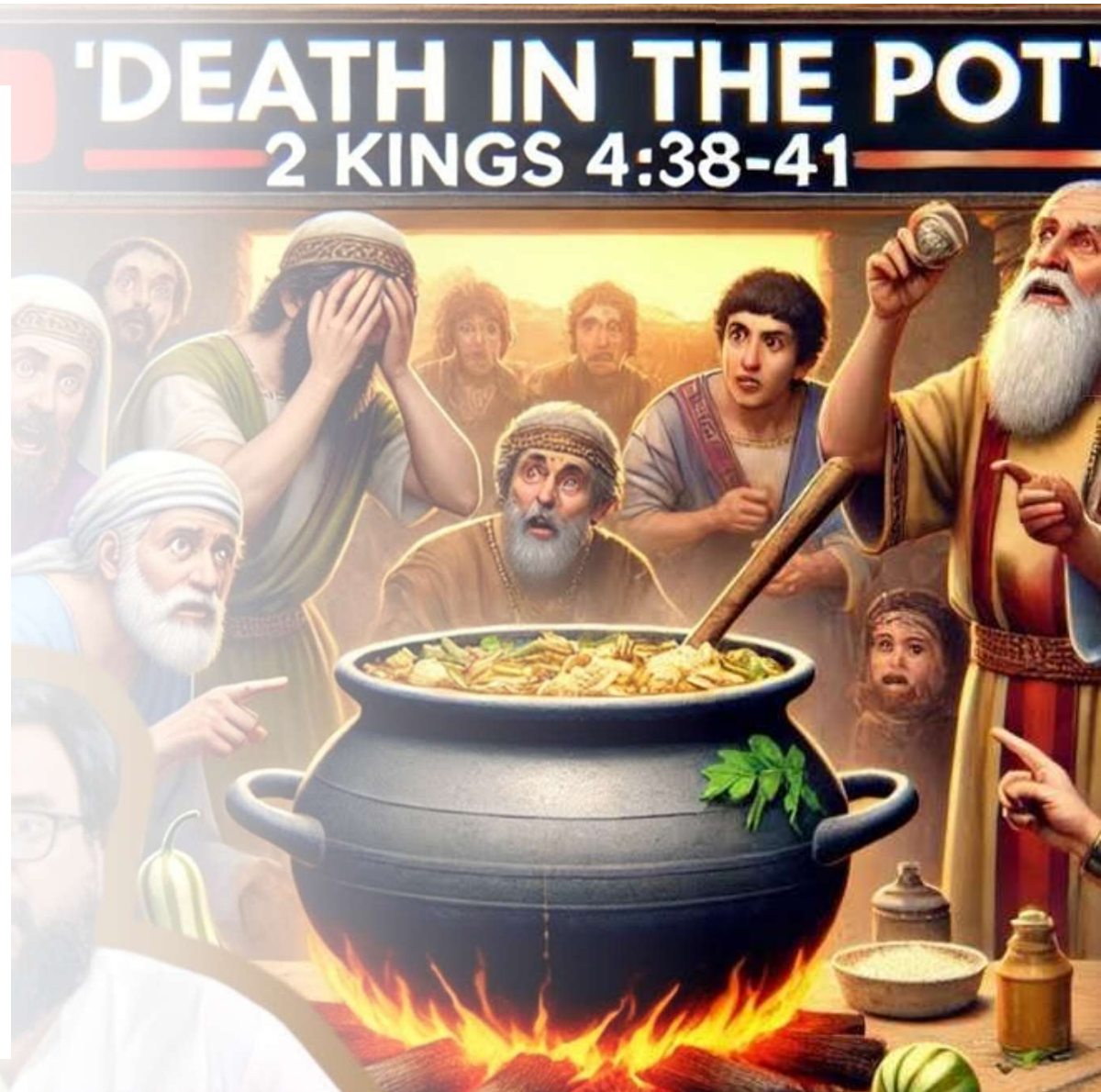
- My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Hosea 5:6
- Isaiah 5:1,2 talks about the very fruitful hill of Zion. It says, “God looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth **wild** grapes.”
- **It’s a wild kingdom out in the world.** We don’t need the mess that’s out there.
- This wild gourd they believe was about the size of an orange with intensely bitter seeds and pulp.
- It caused one to be **violently purgative**. It was a laxative!
 - It is a **MOVING** experience. It would tear you up.



- If you've ever been to the mission field, you know how important it is to watch what you eat.
- This gourd ranks among the vegetables that were poison.
- But let's spiritualize this. The wild grapes in Isaiah 5:2 and the wild olive tree in Romans 11.
- Many say the olive tree in Romans 11 is the natural Jew and that the WILD olive tree are the Gentile nations. **NO. NO.**
- Jesus said in John 15, "**I am the true vine.**" He is the genuine vine.
- The **OLIVE TREE** is **JESUS**.
- The **WILD OLIVE TREE** is **ADAM**.



- The olive tree is the tree of faith and the wild olive tree is a tree of unbelief.
- Ishmael was a wild man or a wild donkey or a wild ass.
- These wild gourds from the field are the wild religious traditions of men. It is a mixture.
- The consequence is evident. DEATH is in the pot.
- GOD HATES MIXTURE.
- Every word from Jesus, the constant prophet, was anointed.
- That's not true of any man.
- Man may prophesy in part and at times will prophesy in the flesh.
- The last thing a prophet or anyone needs is a mixture.



Where's the Toilet?

- So they **poured out** (an UNHOLY flow) for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as (not noticeable at first) they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out (shrieked), and said, *O thou man of God, there is **death in the pot***. And they could not eat *thereof*. 2 Kings 4:40
- This was an **UNHOLY FLOW. UNHOLY.**
- Hummm, makes me think of “Christian” television. There’s a lot of unholy flow there.
- It was not noticeable at first. Isn’t that how Hollywood or the Music industry lures you in?
- But when it hits your tummy, it’s violently purgative!
- They cried out. They hollered! They shrieked! “There’s a violent purgative going on in me!”





Death in the Pot

- There was poison in the stew.
- There was death in the pot. They couldn't eat it. They were unable to eat it.
- They say the 144,000 are the Jews, and they are going to rise overnight and do what the church hasn't done in 2000 years and they are going to do it without the Holy Ghost.
 - YOU CAN'T EAT THAT!
- They say women can't preach... and on and on and on.
- THERE'S DEATH IN THE POT.
- They say, Jesus is up there as a carpenter building me a mansion.
- THERE'S DEATH IN THE POT.
- YOU are the mansion.

- When you are violently purgative, it gets messy.
- The younger you are, the messier it is.
- Have you ever had to take a baby and put them in the sink and hose them down after a violent purgative?
- Real prophets can't eat this deadly mixture.
- So real prophets are not going to eat or preach DEATH (Law) or TRADITIONS of man.



- What is going to heal this pot?
- But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast (threw) *it* into the pot; and he said, Pour out (healing flow) for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot. 2 Kings 4:41
- Meal. Bring the Word.
- The Word is ground flour.
- Meal is a symbol of God's healing power.
- They ate by faith in the actions and word of the man of God.
- A real prophet will heal the pot.
- Paul said, "Who delivered us from so great a death." 2 Corinthians 1:10
- That is what God has done for us here.



The word, HARM, is taken from two Hebrew words:

- Daw-Baw (a word)
- Rah (bad, evil, injurious)

The pot had been HEALED of all EVIL WORDS!

Tradition of men will hurt you.

The meal thrown into the pot represented Jesus himself.

Jesus Christ is the meal that healed the poisonous stew.

Wonder where Elisha got the meal in a time of famine?

Double miracle.

He had to spiritually, supernaturally create the meal to even throw it in there.

The Miracle of the Loaves

- And there came a man from Baalshalisha, and brought the man of God BREAD of the FIRSTFRUITS, TWENTY loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he (ELISHA) said, Give unto the people, that they may eat.
- And his servitor (GEHAZI) said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? He (ELISHA) said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave *thereof*.
- So he set *it* before them, and they did eat, and left *thereof*, according to the word of the LORD. 2 Kings 4:42-44
- Baalshalisha means “thrice-great, lord of the third part”. This was a place in Ephraim near Gilgal. It reveals “excellent” or “three-fold” things.
- This nobleman brought a firstfruits offering.
- He brought NOURISHMENT from the third dimension, the MOST HOLY PLACE.
- The BREAD that he brought is a picture of the WORD and the MESSAGE of the Kingdom.
- Twenty loaves of Barley. Twenty is a Bible number for REDEMPTION.
- The Full Ears of Corn represents MATURE SONS.





Gehazi, the servant, not only didn't have discernment, he didn't have any faith.



He said, "What, should I set this before an hundred men?"



He was saying, there's not enough to feed a hundred men.



Elisha told him again to give it to the people that they may eat. There would be plenty for all. And some would be left over just like in the miracle that Jesus did with the 5000 and 4000.



So Gehazi set out the barley and the corn and they did eat and there was some left over according to the word of the Lord.

Naaman Cured of Leprosy

- This miracle is more familiar. It is referenced in Luke as well.
- And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian. Luke 4:27
- This miracle again carries a flavor of the New Testament gospel.
- Naaman was a Syrian. He was a NON-JEW.
- So, here's the gospel. Here's the good news. Healing, salvation was carried to the NATIONS.

- Let's take a deeper look at the spiritual meaning to the story of Naaman.
- The Song of Solomon representing the Holy of Holies contrasted to the book of Ecclesiastes, the natural man – vanity of vanities.
- Solomon, as a natural man typifies what Psalms 39:5 says, “every man at his best state *is* altogether vanity”.
- Solomon had it all, he knew it all, he did it all. He characterized what one can be in the natural realm. He reached the top.
- Solomon was a natural man at his best state.
- The word “every man” represents “Adam”.
- Adam at his best state is altogether vanity or empty. He is a mere breath.
- The Naaman story provides a detailed picture of the natural man enjoying the highest and the best, yet unregenerate and in need of salvation and healing.



- The story of Naaman is a Salvation story.
- He leprosy. **Leprosy is a picture of SIN.**
- Leprosy begins as a small insignificant spot or blemish. It is not recognized at first. It is progressive according to the individual.
- Leprosy affects the whole man.
- The worst kind of leprosy is in the forehead. It is contagious. It causes one's hair to fall out. It causes numbness. It is incurable. There is no remedy.
- You cannot heal yourself. You cannot save yourself from leprosy.

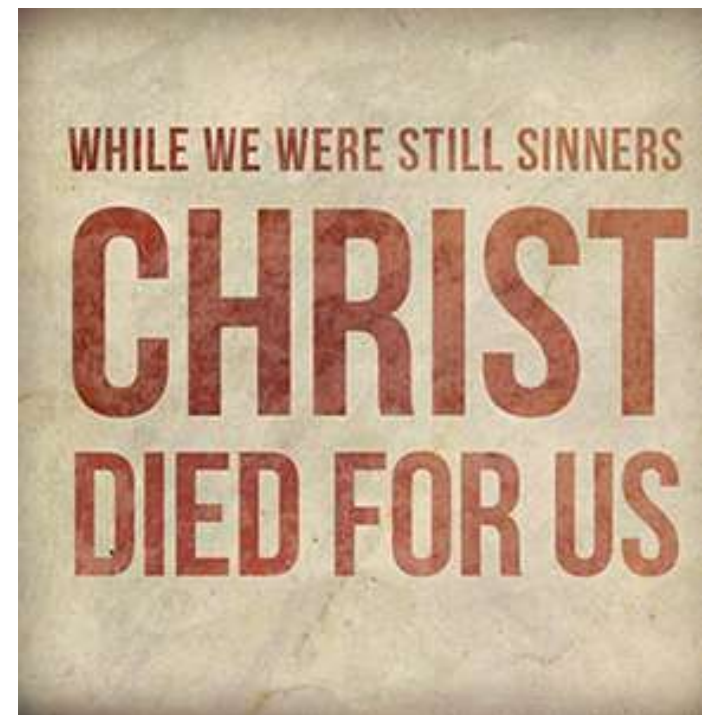


- The punchline is that only Jesus Christ can heal the leper.
- Only Jesus can save the sinner.
 - There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12
- Naaman was the commander and chief of the Syrian army. His name means “pleasantness, agreeable, sociable, amiable, sweet, graceful, good.”
- This is man at his best. He was a captain, a head person, ruler, leader, chief host of Syria.
- He had reached the summit of his profession. He was the general, the commander of the whole army.
- He was an important man.

- Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, *but he was* a leper. 2 Kings 5:1
- Naaman was a great man **with his master**.
- These great people in sports and Hollywood say they are on talking terms with their master. Their master is the devil. Some have been anointed by Satan and sold their soul to the devil.
- Naaman stood in the royal favor of the kingdom.
- The amazing thing is it says that the Lord Jehovah had his hand on this man even as a sinner and had caused him to be a deliverer in his victories in battle.
 - while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8



- Many of us before we were saved, the restraining hand of God was on our lives – while we were yet sinners.
- Here's this great, important man. He didn't know God. He worshiped idols; and yet, when he went out to battle, God helped him win.
- You can tell any sinner who thinks they are really something, you can say, "God helps you win. God gave you that idea."
- Naaman was a mighty man. He was mighty in valor, strength, ability, efficiency. He was fearless, daring, and well-equipped.
- And he was a LEPER.
- He had all these things going for him, and yet he is a sinner, a victim of a loathsome incurable disease called sin.
 - There is none righteous, no, not one. Romans 3:10
 - All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23



- No man's greatness or honor or interest or valor or victory can set him out of the reach of the calamities of human life.
- There are many sickly people walking around in rich clothing.
- It says, in 1 Kings 22:34, "And a *certain* man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel (AHAB) between the joints of the harness."
 - Some think this was Naaman.
- And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel **a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.** 2 Kings 5:2
- The Syrians were raiding bands of 100, 200 troops and bringing them away captive out of the land of Israel.
- **A little maid, we don't know her name, was an unsung hero.**
- Naaman would not have gotten healed if it wasn't for the little maid.
- This little girl had been carried captive, and she wasn't bitter because of it. She had been made a slave and yet God did a great work in her heart and she had compassion.
- There were many people in the Bible who were unsung heroes, no names. Think of Mrs. Ezekiel.



The “Insignificant” People

- And she (little maid) said unto her mistress, Would God my lord *were* with the prophet that *is* in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy. 2 Kings 5:3
- The little maid was **an insignificant damsel** who just happened to be waiting on Naaman and his wife.
- Everybody’s in their place where God puts them.
- This little maid said to her mistress, “You know what? I wish my lord that Naaman was with the prophet that is in Samaria, for he would recover him of his leprosy.”
- She had compassion for a heathen man. She had forgiven this man’s soldiers, her captors.
- Her words have set the motion to bring about healing for Naaman.
- Without this little insignificant maid, captive, he would never have been healed.



- You may be in a situation saying, “Why has this happened to me??”
- You never know.
- In this age, we send people to Bible college for three years and they preach for thirty years.
- Jesus lived thirty years, training and studying the Word, and preached for three years.
- God may train you your whole life for something he wants done that may take five minutes.
- In America, Christian television, podcasts, are about clicks, nickels, noses, and names.
- What many do not understand is that some of the greatest callings in life are through insignificant people.



Praying Grandmas are the Reason Many of us are Serving the Lord

- You may say, “Well I haven’t done anything.”
- Are your children godly and serving the Lord? If so, you have done something great in the kingdom.
- There are many “bishops” who are enamored by their gifts. They are legends in their own mind.
- The greatest people are **praying grandmas**.
- And *one* went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that *is* of the land of Israel. 2 Kings 5:4
- So, one of his servants went in and told Naaman what the maid said.



- And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand *pieces* of gold, and ten changes of raiment. 2 Kings 5:5
- Well, Naaman was IMPORTANT. This would need a grandstand letter and money.
- How many today have to grandstand on the Internet and television.
- The King of Israel was Jehoram, the son of Ahab.
- He took silver, gold, and fancy clothes. In today's money that is well over \$2 Billion worth of gifts. This guy was loaded.
- He was going to buy his healing, buy his salvation. He was important.



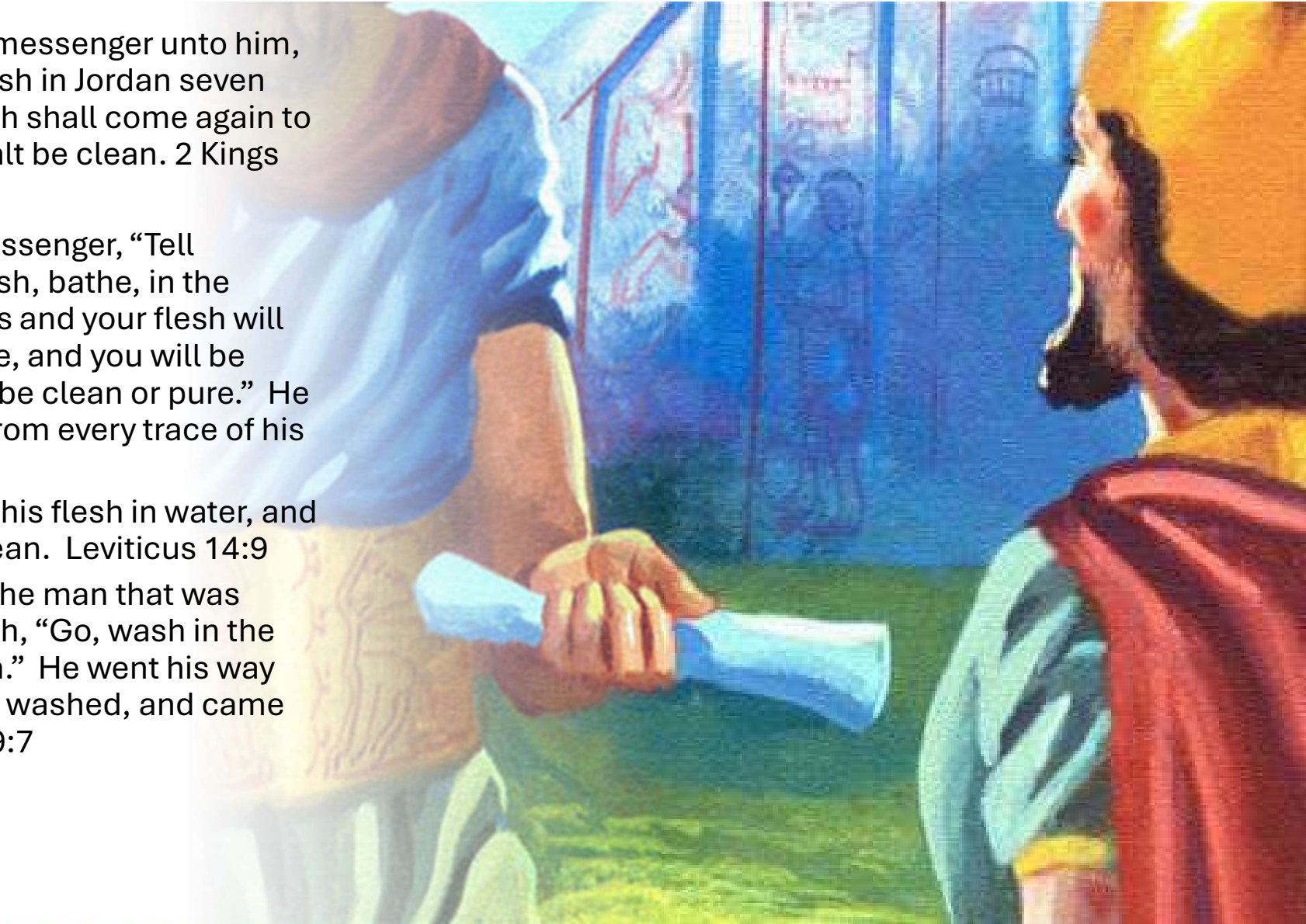
- And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have *therewith* sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy. 2 Kings 5:6
- So, he brings the letter to Jehoram, king of Israel.
- And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that **he rent his clothes**, and said, **Am I God, to kill and to make alive**, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore **consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.** 2 Kings 5:7
- Renting his clothes was a sign of grief, terror, alarm.
- The reason he said, “make alive” is because if one had leprosy, he was considered a **dead man**.
- Jehoram is say, “He is just setting me up. He wants to pick a fight with me.”



- And it was so, when **Elisha the man of God** had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, **Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.** 2 Kings 5:8
- Elisha is saying let Naaman come to me and he will know there is a man of God in Israel.
- So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. 2 Kings 5:9
 - Some *trust* in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God. Psalms 20:7
- Horses and chariots in the Bible are a symbol of human strength.



- And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean. 2 Kings 5:9
- Elisha tells the messenger, “Tell Naaman to go, wash, bathe, in the Jordan seven times and your flesh will come again to thee, and you will be restored. You will be clean or pure.” He would be healed from every trace of his leprosy.
 - he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean. Leviticus 14:9
 - Jesus said to the man that was blind from birth, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.” He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. John 9:7



- But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. 2 Kings 5:11
 - Naaman's pride had to be dealt with.
- The Lord's simple remedy demanded a complete submission.
- Naaman had sought help from a man of position instead a man of power.
- Naaman was expecting his healing to come by a preconceived instrument or method.
- Elisha had to deal first with Naaman's spiritual problem of haughtiness and sanctification and then he would receive his physical healing by means of humiliation and obedience in a manner that would bring glory to God alone.
 - Jesus said in Luke 5:12, "Be thou clean."
 - Jesus said in John 15:3, "Now **ye are clean through the word** which I have spoken unto you."
- Revelation 19:8 says that the armies in heaven had fine linen, white and clean.
 - "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints."

Now ye are clean
through the word
which I have
spoken unto you

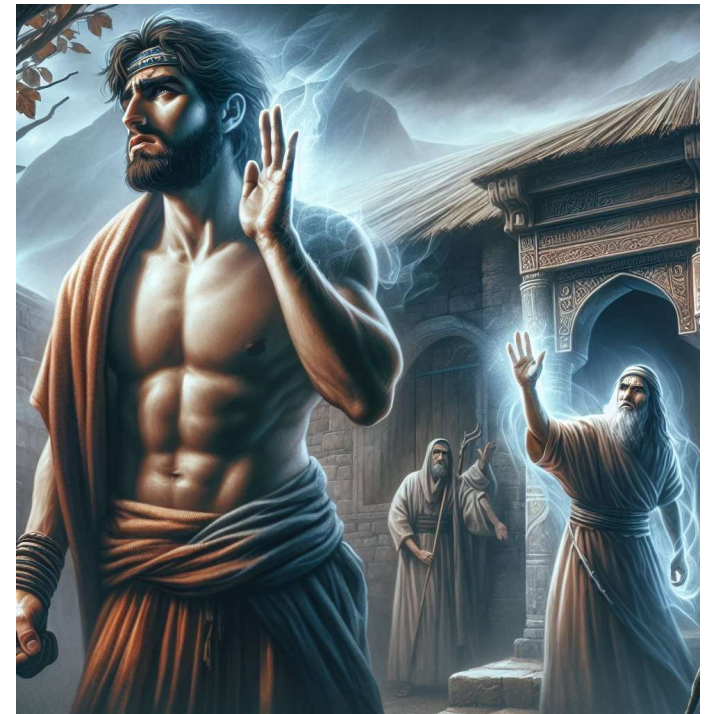
— John 15:3

The Pride of Naaman

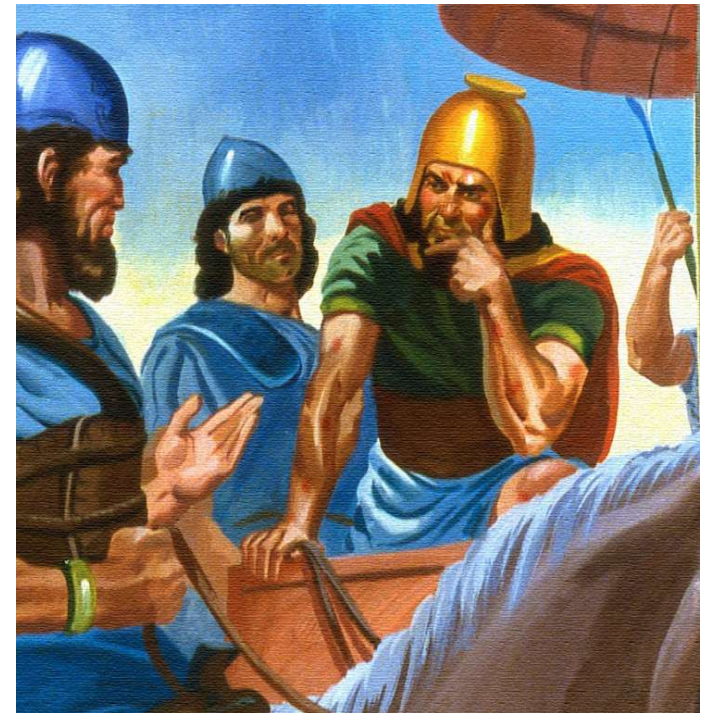
- The word “clean” means to be pure.
- Naaman was wroth. He burst out in rage. He was furious.
- Naaman said, “Behold, **I THOUGHT**”. This shows his pride.
- He was most likely thinking, surely the king will come out to me and stand, with pomp and ceremony and call on some of name of his Lord, his god.
- He said, “he will strike his hand over the place” meaning he thought the king would move his hand or pass his hand over the place of his leprosy. He’ll do an abracadabra on me. He will grandstand the healing and everyone can oo and ah.
- Well when that didn’t happen, he starts cussing and fuming.

Naaman in a Rage

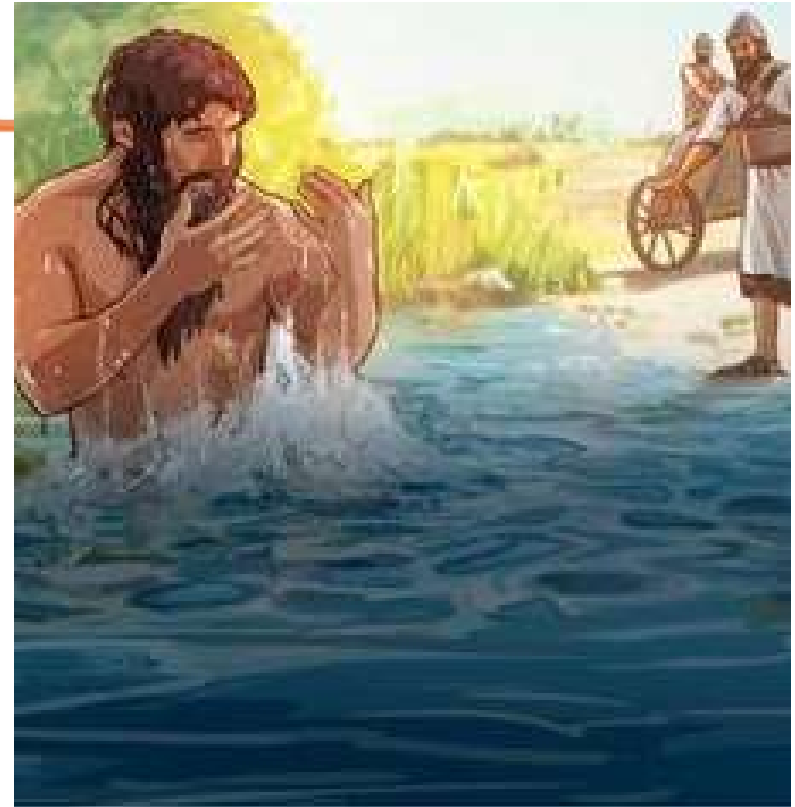
- Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. 2 Kings 5:12
- Damascus was the capital of Syria. He said the waters there were the better waters of all of Israel. Why can't I wash in those waters and be clean? You mean I came all this way and now you are telling me to go down the river.
- Naaman turned away in a rage, a hot displeasure, indignation and fury.



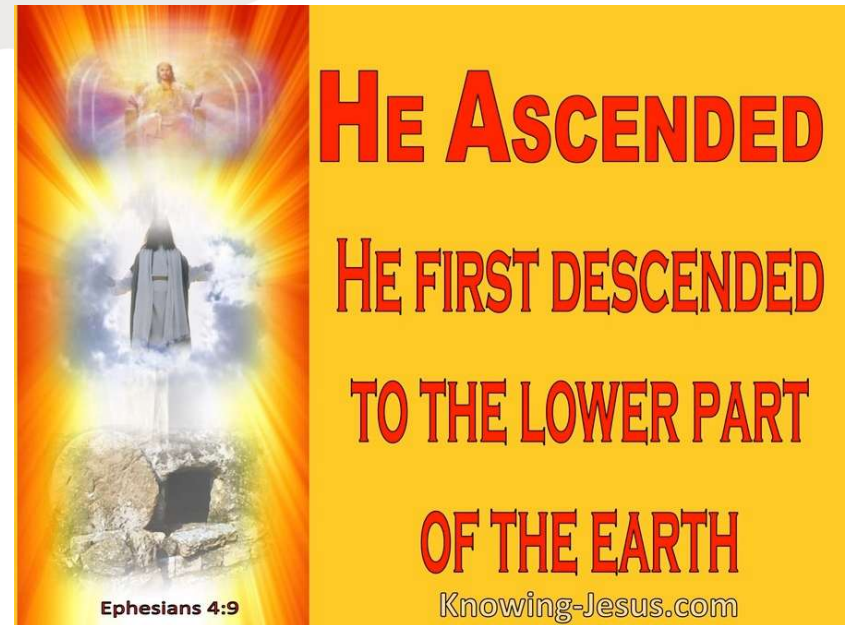
- And **his servants came near**, and spake unto him, and said, My father, *if* the prophet had bid thee *do some* great thing, wouldest thou not have done *it*? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? 2 Kings 5:13
- Everyone say, “Thank God for servants.” Here is another insignificant person, saying “have you considered doing what the prophet says?”
- Sometimes it is the insignificant people in your life, your children, your elders, people who you don’t consider that may have the answer you are sweating about.
- It is important that we maintain a teachable spirit so that even a little child can speak into our lives.
- No, we shouldn’t open our spirit to just everyone, but pay attention – test the spirits.
- When Naaman’s servants approached him, they said, “My father”. They were showing respect.
- They were saying, “Hey, it’s a small thing. Why not do it?”
 - They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. Jonah 2:8
 - Jesus said, “if you have faith as a grain of a mustard seed...nothing shall be impossible unto you.” Matthew 15:20
- **Sometimes it’s the LITTLE THINGS that make the BIG THINGS.**



- Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. 2 Kings 5:14
- So, Naaman went down and dipped seven times.
 - The little bird was dipped seven times in Leviticus 14.
 - The high priest on the day of Atonement sprinkled the blood before the mercy seat seven times.
 - They walked around Jericho seven times.
- There's something about the number seven.
- Seven means Complete.
- Dipping seven times would be a complete baptism of death to self.
- **A Complete Death to Self.**
- Jordan is a symbol for death. You can learn about that in message #7 of the Elijah series.

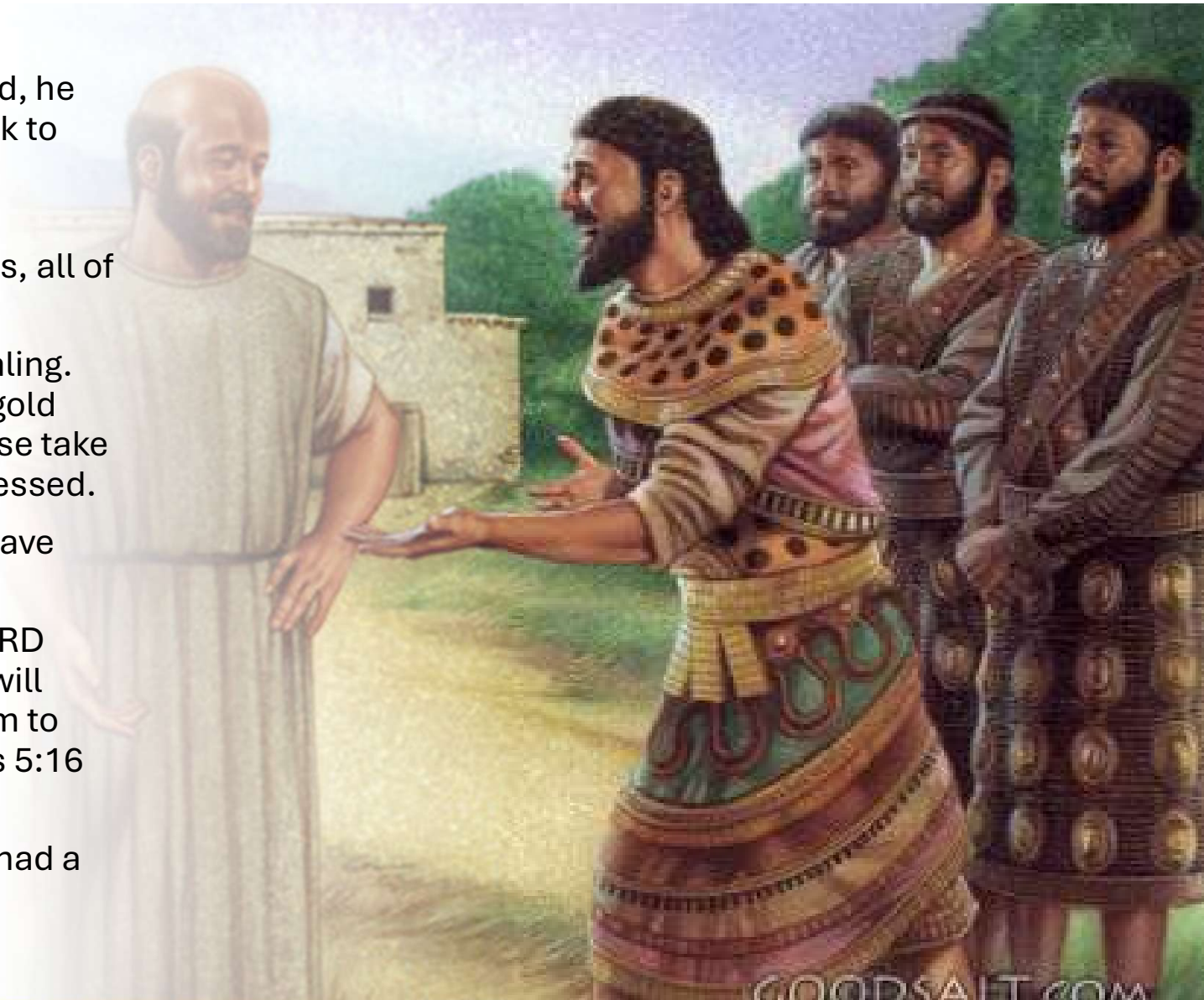


- Jordan means descender.
- When you've dipped seven times in the Jordan, you've descended as far as you can go.
- Jesus is the pattern. He descended into the lowest parts of the earth before he ascended.
 - (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?
 - He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) Ephesians 4:9-10
- We were living in the lowest parts of the earth. Many are churchgoing sinners, hypocrites, religious, vile, arrogant, violent.
- Jesus had to go LOW to get us.



- Jesus descended before he ascended.
- So many people want to **ascend before they descend**.
- Young people want a house, a car, and all these things. They want to start out as the boss.
- The word “dipped” means to dip into, plunge, immerse. It means baptize.
- Baptism is not being sprinkled or poured upon. You can’t sprinkle a corpse, you BURY it.
- And he **returned to the man of God**, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that *there is* no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant. 2 Kings 5:15
- Naaman returned to the man of God. This is like the tenth leper that came back to Jesus.
- He and all his troops came back to the man of God.

- After Naaman had been healed, he and all of his troops came back to Elisha.
- This is a picture of the nations coming to God, all of his troops, all of his company, all nations.
- They wanted to pay for the healing. We brought all this silver and gold and all this new clothing, please take something man of God. Be blessed.
- What would most preachers have done? Well, we know!
- But he (Elisha) said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take *it*; but he refused. 2 Kings 5:16
- Elisha UTTERLY REFUSED. He REFUSED to be BOUGHT. He had a made his mind up.



GIVE US YOUR MONEY!!!



Christian Integrity is Hard to Find

- In Genesis 14:21, the King of Sodom said to Abram, “Take these goods to yourself” Abram said, “No way!”
 - And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,
 - That I will not *take* from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that *is* thine, lest thou shouldst say, I have made Abram rich: Genesis 14:22-23
- Paul said in 2 Corinthians 11:8, “I robbed other churches, taking wages *of them*, to do you service.
- And when I was present with you, and wanted, **I was chargeable to no man:** for that which was lacking to me **the brethren** which came from Macedonia **supplied:** and **in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.**”
- Paul said, “I have never asked for you one cent and never will!
- Have you ever known a pastor to give the offering back to someone?
- Our goal as ministers should be to bring the word of the Lord to strengthen the people without requiring money in exchange.
- Integrity is hard to find these days.
- I’ve had offers to put my podcasts up for payment. I refused.
- Churches who are soliciting money to build buildings are not walking in truth. If the building was of God, they wouldn’t need to ask for funds. God would send it.
- If ever there was a day and an hour when people need to be CLEAN when it comes to finances, it is now.
- Real prophets are not hirelings and there are a lot of people out there calling themselves apostles and prophets and they are contracting their services.



Bringing the “Holy Land” Home

- Compare the integrity of the prophet Elisha with that of Abraham and Paul.
- And Naaman said, Shall there not then, I pray thee, be given to thy servant two mules' burden of earth? for thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD. 2 Kings 5:17
- Naaman is heathen, religious, and superstitious. This is comparable to people bringing bags of dirt or wood back from the Holy Land or water from the Jordan river.
- Naaman says he wants two mules' burden of earth and go back to my heathen church and build an altar. He says, I'm not going to offer sacrifices to other gods but only to the Lord Jehovah.

- Naaman continues, “In this thing the LORD pardon thy servant, *that* when my master goeth into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon: when I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon thy servant in this thing.” 2 Kings 5:18
- No who is Rimmon? He was the heathen storm god of Syria.
- So, although Naaman was healed, although he had encountered the reality of Elijah’s prophetic ministry, he refused to leave the old order.
- He was still going back to his old church. He’s saying to Elisha, “When I go back to my old church, just pardon me in this Elisha. When I go back into the house of Rimmon to worship and the King leans on my hand and I bow myself in the house, the Lord pardon me, and oh, I want to take some holy ground back with me.”



- And he (Elisha) said unto him, Go in peace. So he departed from him a little way.” 2 Kings 5:19
- Elisha was being nice. “Go. Go on in peace.”
- Now the last part of Chapter five we will see Gehazi, the servant’s greed and judgement.
 - For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 1 Timothy 6:10
 - The love of money is the first step toward all kinds of sin. It will bring nothing but trouble. Going down the path of the love of money, some will lose their faith completely.

**The Love
of Money
is the root
of all kinds
of evil.**



Gehazi's Greed

- The next is an account of Gehazi's love of money, his greed, repeated lies, deception, covetousness.
- This is a dire warning to all the hirelings in the ministry who merchandise or traffic or pedal the ministry.
- Elisha, a holy prophet, a man of God has a servant who proves to be an abase, lying, and wayward man.
- Gehazi was with Elisha. He stood continually before him. He knew his doctrine and he saw the miracles, yet he did not have a heart after God.
 - **Even Jesus had a Judas.**



Gehazi Followed Naaman

- The best men, the best ministers will have people around them that bring them grief and shame.
- But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, as the LORD liveth, **I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.**
- So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw *him* running after him, he lighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, **Is all well?** 2 Kings 5:20-21



Gehazi Wanted the Armani Suits

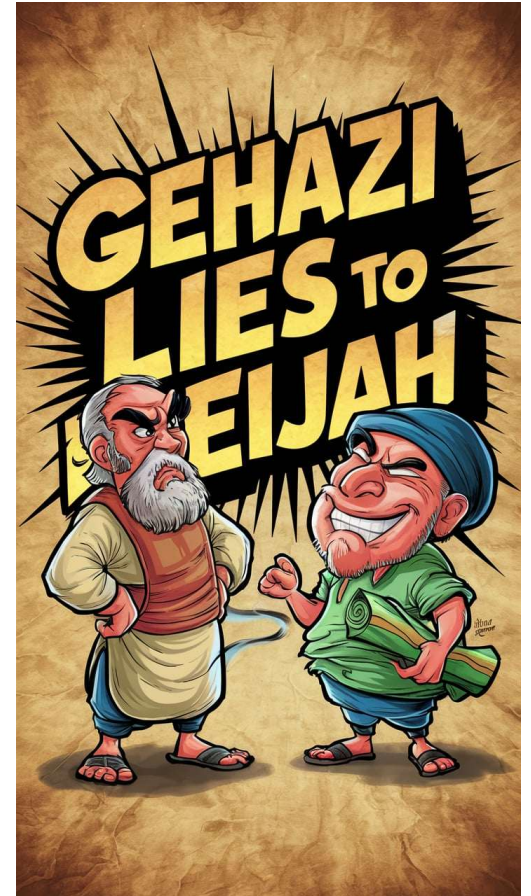
- And he (Gehazi) said, **All is well. My master hath sent me**, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments. 2 Kings 5:22
- He lies here. His master is not Elisha, it is the devil. There is no truth in him. He told a deliberate lie. A deliberate misrepresentation.
- He was preying on the emotions of Naaman, saying two young men from the sons of the prophets wanted a talent of silver and two changes of garments.
- He wanted the Armani suits, just give me two of them.



- And Naaman said, Be content, take two talents. And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid *them* upon two of his servants; and they bare *them* before him. 2 Kings 5:23
- Naaman urged Gehazi to take two talents of silver and the two garments.
- “Here, take two talents of silver.”
- “Oh no, one is enough” “You really want me to take two?” “Oh okkkkk”
- A talent is 120 pounds, so this would be 240 pounds of silver – about a quarter of a million dollars in today’s money.
- Compare this to Achen’s thievery.
 - When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they *are* hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it. Joshua 7:21



- And when he came to the tower, he took *them* from their hand, and bestowed *them* in the house: and he let the men go, and they departed. 2 Kings 5:24
- Just like Achen, Gehanzi went to the tower, took his stuff, went to the house and hid it. Bestowed means deposited.
- But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said unto him, Whence *comest thou*, Gehazi? And he said, Thy servant went no whither. 2 Kings 5:25
- Elisha is saying, “Where have you been?”
- Elisha had seen in the spirit where he had been.
- One lie leads to another lie.
- “I didn’t go anywhere.”
 - Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, lied to the Holy Ghost and they were both carried out and buried. (Acts 5)
 - Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost. Acts 5:3



- And he (Elisha) said unto him, **Went not mine heart *with thee***, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? ***Is it a time to receive money***, and to receive garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants? 2 Kings 5:26
- Elisha played the events, the Holy Spirit had shown him. The heart of Elisha went with Gehazi to Naaman.
- Is it a time to receive money?
- This is NOT the time to receive money. It is not the time to seek wealth.
 - But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day. Deuteronomy 8:18



GEHAZI THE GREEDY SERVANT



- The gospel of Christ is for ONE reason.
- It is to establish his covenant that we might evangelize the nations.
- Many churches spend an hour to take up the offering. It's wrong.
- **Elisha said, "Is it a time to receive money,** and to receive garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants?"
- This list was Gehazi's plan where he would spend all his money.
- Who do you know that is lining their pockets with gifts?

- The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence a leper *as white as snow*. 2 Kings 5:27
- Gehazi turned white as snow.
- If one had leprosy, he was considered a **dead man**.
- Everyone knew he had sinned. It was exposed.
- Preachers who are cleaving to money better be real careful.
- It says leprosy will cleave unto thee and thy seed forever.
- Cleaving to money will destroy the seed, the ministry, integrity and your witness.
 - Ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out. Numbers 32:23



Merging the Corruption in Politics With the Corruption in the Church

- Naaman represents politics, Elisha represents the church.
- Just like Gehazi many in the church are chasing the political field because it means more favors and money.
- Gehazi sought after the monetary things of Naaman and he ended up getting what Naaman came to get rid of – **SIN – DISEASE - DEATH**
- Gehazi's story contrasts those who are greedy and have used the REAL prophets and the name of Jesus to get money or gain when in reality they oppose the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- These people will be marked and exposed for what they seek after.
 - **The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.** Proverbs 21:6

