

## NAAMAN HEALED & CONVERTED

### 2 Kings 5:1-19

#### I. THE CHARACTERS

##### A. A Mighty Man (1-4)—Naaman

1. **Commander of the Syrian Army**
  - a. **Rank**—he was the top military general.
  - b. **Riches**—he brought fabulous wealth to pay the prophet for his healing.
  - c. **Respect**—he was favored by the king and in his inner circle of trust.
2. **Enemy of Israel**
3. **Afflicted with Leprosy**

##### B. A Little Girl (2-3)—we don't even know her name

1. **War Captive** (Mat 5:44)—she had been **kidnapped** from her home
2. **Maid Servant** (Col 3:22; Eph 6:6)—she served Naaman's
3. **Compassionate Heart** (3)—she cares about Naaman's suffering
4. **Simple Witness** (Ps 8:2)—she shares what she knows

##### C. A FLUSTERED KING (7)—the king of Israel, no time or thought for God

1. **Acts like an Atheist**—believed theoretically but no practical relationship
2. **Views Everything Politically**—either an insult or a trap
3. **Doesn't See the Opportunity**—for witness or diplomacy, only foreign threat

##### D. The Prophet of God (8)—*manifests the character of God*

1. **Not Employed by the Government**
2. **Not Friendly with the King**
3. **Not Impressed by Worldly Distinctions** (Job 34:19; Rom 2:11; Act 10:34; Ja 2:1-4)

## II. **THE CONVERSION**

- A. **Providential Placement** (Jer 29:7; Act 8:4; 17:26-27)—the maid from Israel
1. **God uses the misfortune of His people for greater good.** (Lam 3:33; Rom 8:28)
  2. **God places us where He wants us to minister.**
- B. **Necessary Humbling** (1 Pet 5:5-6)—*essential for salvation*
1. **The malady of leprosy—suffering and death put life in perspective**
  2. **The disregard of the prophet** (10-11)—*Elisha didn't come out in person to attend*
  3. **The disappointment of expectations** (12-13)—the nature of reality and the way God works
    - a. **The Lack of Showmanship**—no ceremony, incantations, sacrifices
    - b. **The Absence of Requirements** (Rom 3:27-28; Eph 2:8-9)—not by works  
→ **Free grace is a turn-off to those who think they can earn their own way.**
    - c. **The Inferiority of the Means** (12)—*bathe 7 times in the muddy Jordan River*

## III. **THE FORESHADOWING**—hint of something bigger and better to come

- A. **Significance of the Jordan River—the site of previous miracles**
1. **Entry to the Promised Land** (Josh 3)
  2. **Elijah's Last Miracle** (2 King 2:7-8)
  3. **Elisha's First Miracle** (2 King 2:13-14)
- B. **Jewish Ritual of Purification—public health benefit and religious symbolism**
1. **Practically it promoted physical health.** (Healing of Body)
  2. **Religiously it represented holiness and purification from sin.** (Healing of Soul)
- C. **Association with Baptism** (Rom 6:4)
1. **Baptism of John for Repentance** (Mat 3:4-6)—John the Baptist
  2. **Baptism as a Sacrament of the Church** (Mat 28:19)—made holy, set apart for -  
-> **Conversion and Acceptance of Gentiles into the Church.** (Eph 2:11-19)