



1

The ministry of Elisha 2 Kings 2:19-13:20

- The healing of Naaman
 - Naaman
 - Top military officer in Syria
 - Man of impeccable reputation and success
 - Noted for his military skill and bravery
 - Suffered from leprosy
 - Leprosy in the Bible should not be understood as modern day, Hansen's disease.
 - Leprosy refers to persistent, incurable, disfiguring diseases of the skin.

2

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 - Raids on the territory of others was motivated largely by financial gain.
 - The girl captured in one of these raids was sold as a slave to the house of Naaman.
 - The integrity of Naaman and his household is seen in the loving concern this slave girl had for her master.
 - The works of God through Elisha were well known.

3

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- The healing of Naaman
 - Naaman conveyed this information to the king of Syria.
 - The king of Syria wrote a letter to the king of Israel requesting the cure of Naaman.
 - The king of Israel was shocked and dismayed at the request and interpreted it as an attempt by the king of Syria to pick a fight.

4

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- The healing of Naaman
 - Elisha heard of the event and the king's response and summoned Naaman to his house.
 - Elisha sent a messenger to give Naaman instructions to follow for his cleansing.
 - Naaman, incensed that Elisha had not even come out to him personally and had given him this ridiculous command to dunk himself in the Jordan River seven times, went away enraged.

5



6

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- The healing of Naaman
 - Naaman’s servants appealed to him to follow the instructions reminding him that the promise was that he would be healed by doing so.
 - Naaman relented and followed the instructions.
 - He came up from the water for the seventh time completely healed.

7

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- The healing of Naaman
 - Naaman returned to Elisha and confessed that the God in Israel is the one true and living God.
 - He offered to richly reward Elisha.
 - Elisha staunchly refused any gift.
 - Naaman confessed that now he would worship no other God but Yahweh.
 - Naaman asked that he would be pardoned for going into a pagan temple with his master the king of Syria as a part of his security responsibilities.

8

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- The healing of Naaman
 - Elisha sent Naaman away in peace.
 - Gehazi, incredulous that Elisha had refused the lucrative gifts, took off after Naaman to get what he could from him.
 - Gehazi concocted a story that sounded plausible enough for Naaman to give him two talents of silver and two changes of clothes. (Today 2 talents,75 pounds, of silver would be worth approximately \$53,000.)

9

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- The healing of Naaman
 - Gehazi returned to Elisha and promptly lied about his activities when asked where he had been.
 - The color probably drained from Gehazi's face as Elisha described his interaction with Naaman.
 - Elisha pronounced God's judgment on him.
 - The leprosy of Naaman would be on Gehazi and his descendants forever.

10

Lessons

- You do not have to be defined by your circumstances.
- God makes a way for people who open their heart to Him to know Him.
- You can have influence from anywhere you are.
- The distinctive of God's faithful servant is that he or she serves in such a way as to focus the attention on God.

11

Lessons

- Listen to reason.
- Beware of greed.
- Nothing is hidden from God.

12
