

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

### **STUDIES IN THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ELISHA**

#### **'Elisha: the messenger of salvation' - 7**

#### **2 Kings 5 v1 - 27**

Key Question - What's this story of the miraculous healing of Naaman all about? Answer - the gospel! See - Lk 4 v14 - 30. Especially - v27. In this story of Naaman we have a wonderful picture of the saving grace and mercy of God in the gospel. Notice.....

#### **1. HOW HIS NEED WAS AWAKENED**

Note - In the Bible leprosy is used as a picture of the nature of sin - spreading, defiling, isolating, bringing death. See - Is 1 v6. The gospel application - just as Naaman could nothing about his leprosy, so we (in and of ourselves) can do nothing about the sin within us. Key Point - spiritually, we are all like Naaman.

Key Question - How was this need answered? Yes - through Elisha, but initially - through this unnamed servant girl. See - v2 - 3. This is a wonderful illustration of the providence of God.

#### **2. HOW HIS PRIDE WAS HUMBLLED**

##### **A. THE WORD OF GOD IS REJECTED**

Note - What was Naaman expecting to happen? See - v11. Magic! But what was key here was God - and his word. See - v10. Naaman was grossly offended - as we can all be by the word of the gospel about the cross of Christ which is the only way to be saved. Key Question - What was Naaman's problem? In his pride he wanted it all to happen (he wanted to do it) his way!

##### **B. THE WORD OF GOD IS ACCEPTED**

There is no other way to healed - to be saved. See - v13 - 14a.

### **3. HOW HIS LIFE WAS TRANSFORMED**

Not only was Naaman healed physically (see - v14), he was healed (cleansed) spiritually - see - v15. What was the evidence of this? It was 2-fold.....

#### **A. HIS BURDEN TO WORSHIP**

See - v17

#### **B. HIS BURDEN TO WITNESS**

See - v18

### **What about Genazi?**

(v19b - 27)

Key Phrase (see - v20) - "as surely as the Lord lives". In other words - Genhazi considered himself to be a Christian. Was he? No - he was-n't! Anything but!

Key Verses - Jer 17 v 9 - 10 & Matt 6 v21.

Key Question of Application - What do we have a heart for? As for Naaman - it was for worship and witness. As for Gehazi - it was for the things of this world.

Note - the symbolism of the judgement. See - v27. The disease he now had on the outside typified the decay in the inside.