Healing Naaman

Greg Kline · 2 Kings 5:1–14

INTRODUCTION

- A fascinating story of a man who just would not obey. And the question reigns with him, as it does with us, why do we not just take God's way?
- For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
- It's all of us who sometimes reason the way he does, reach the conclusions that he reaches, and sometimes leaves enraged the way that he was enraged.

1 A Mighty Man of Valor, but a Leper

2 Kings 5:1–14

- He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper.
- Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.
- So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God. And his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.
- What comes with any greatness in this life, there is almost always a but.

2 Why Did Naaman Not Just Obey?

2 Kings 5:9–12; Matthew 7:24–28

- Can we not see that Naaman was bothered that Elisha didn't do it the way he thought? Elisha himself didn't even come out and do it.
- This was his expectation, and because it was not met, what did Naaman do? He got mad and he left.
- He thought there were better options.
- He built his house on the sand, and he was that way because he was willing to hear but not do.

3 Sometimes We Let Others Affect Our Service

Matthew 5:38–42; Matthew 5:11–12

- Sometimes we may let others affect our service.
- If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.
- We need to be unmoved by the service of others. Whether that is good or bad or disappointing.
- Our goal in this life is not to get even. Our goal in this life is not for everybody to share the same amount of work. Our job in this life is to serve God.

4 We Don't Always Want God's Way

Jeremiah 10:23

- I know, O Lord, that the way of man is not in himself.

- Without focusing on God, without trusting what God's way is, that God's way is first and foremost, we're not going to make it because we're not going to choose God's way.
- The problem was Naaman wanted to be healed. But not quite enough if he had to stray from the way he wanted it.
- What about when God's way is here and what I want is over here? That's the test of someone who truly has faith.

5 Sometimes We Think Our Way Is Good Enough

Acts 22:16; Acts 2:36–38; Romans 10:17

- Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.
- I believe that faith is all you need. But true faith submits to the will of God.
- Yes, I know God says this, but isn't this on the side good enough?
- It's a big deal if God says it is.
- The question is not what do I think, what do others do, but what does God decree?
- We need to know that our way is not good enough unless it's God's way.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Choose to serve God today. Don't be distracted by others. Don't think your way is good enough. And don't cheapen God's great offer of forgiveness.**

MY NOTES