



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE II KINGS 5:1-5, 9-15a

LESSON: A SERVANT GIRL POINTS NAAMAN TO GOD — August 18, 2024

INTRODUCTION:

CHAPTER 4 gives us a glimpse of the many miracles of the Prophet Elisha. It begins with the multiplying of the poor widow's oil to pay her debts (4:1-7). Then there's the miracle of raising the Shunamite's son from the dead (4:8-37). The healing of poison pottage in a famine, (4:38-41), and the miracle of feeding a hundred with less (4:42-44).

I. 2 KINGS 5:1-5

2nd Kgs. 5:1 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. ¹Naaman was an important man who led a powerful army. Naaman was the leader of the army of the king of Syria, and the king of Syria had benefited greatly from Naaman's skill. The Lord had given him this success and honor. At that time, Naaman did not know the Lord, but the Lord was using Naaman to bring about His (the Lord's) purposes. He was a mighty man of valor, but he had a serious disease in his skin. He was a leper.

2nd Kgs. 5:2 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. The soldiers of the Syrian army had made attacks against Israel. During one attack, they captured a little Israelite girl. She became the maid for Naaman's wife. His great success in battle could not keep him in good health. So, even the strongest person is actually weak. Even a person who gains the whole world will lose his soul (Matthew 16:26).

2nd Kgs. 5:3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy. The girl spoke to her master's mistress. She did not forget God. She told Naaman's wife about the Prophet Elisha that's in Samaria. She believed that God would use Elisha to cure her master, and he would recover from leprosy! That was strong faith.

2nd Kgs. 5:4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel. Naaman discussed this with the king of Syria of what the Israelite girl had said, for he's in the land of Israel, their enemy. Naaman did not want to leave the country unless the king agreed.

2nd Kgs. 5:5 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. The king strongly urged Naaman to go to the king of Israel for help, for he wanted the leader of his army to be healthy. And the king even said he would send a letter to the king of Israel in order to support Naaman in every possible manner, so, Naaman left and took with him 10 talents (750 pounds or 340 kilos) of silver, 6000 shekels (pieces) (150 pounds or 70 kilos) of gold, and 10 sets of fine clothes (raiment).

NOT APART OF THE LESSON: 2 KINGS 5:6-8

6 Naaman took the letter to the king of Israel. it says *"The man bringing this letter is my servant Naaman; I want you to heal him of his leprosy."* **7** When the king of Israel read it, he tore his clothes and said,

¹<https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/2kings-lbw.htm>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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"This man sends me a leper to heal! Am I God, that I can kill and give life? He is only trying to get an excuse to invade us again." The king of Israel was in a desperate state. He thought that the king of Syria was trying to start a war. The king of Israel had no power over what God did. The king of Israel did not even worship the real God. So it was clearly impossible for the king of Israel to help Naaman. **8** But when Elisha the prophet heard about the king of Israel's plight (the ripping and tearing of his clothes), he sent this message to him: *"Why are you so upset (tearing of your clothes)? Send Naaman to me, and I'll will know that there is a true prophet of God here in Israel."* (TLB). Elisha's name means *"God of Salvation."* Elisha knew that God could cure illnesses. He would show Himself mightily and Naaman would see the true God, and that God was working by his prophet.

²Like the wise men who followed the star (Matthew 2:1-8), Naaman also first went to the king's palace. Like the wise men, he also came from abroad in order to see a very important person. And like the wise men, he discovered that the king was unable to introduce him to that person or their need.

II. 2 KINGS 5:9-12

2nd Kgs. 5:9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. Naaman went with his horses and chariots. He stopped at the door of Elisha's house.

2nd Kgs. 5:10 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. Naaman was in for a rude awakening. Elisha didn't even come to the door to meet or greet this important powerful Syrian soldier. He sent a messenger saying to Naaman *"Go and wash 7 times in the Jordan river and that he would be clean. This will cure you of your disease."* Naaman did not know that God's healing grace is free.

2nd Kgs. 5:11 But Naaman was wrath, 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. But Naaman was very angry when he went away. He said this. *"I thought that Elisha would come out to me. I thought that he would pray to the Lord, his God, then he would wave his hand over the part of my body that is ill, and so he would cure me."* Yes, like so many of us, we thought it would be a certain way; our way... He had money to pay him... *"Surely there would be an audience. No way, a servant came out to tell me this?"*

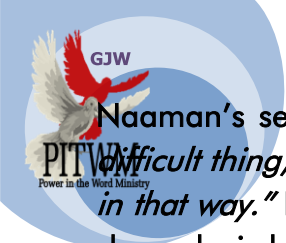
2nd Kgs. 5:12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. Naaman was thinking to himself and he started to compare the rivers to the one he was instructed to go to. He started to compare the width of them to the ones in Syria. *"Surely the Abana river and the Pharpar river in Damascus are better than Israel's waters. I would rather wash in those rivers in order to be healthy and be clean."* So Naaman turned and went away in great anger. He didn't realized that we can only receive God's blessing and forgiveness in the way God tells us. Jesus said, *"Nobody comes to the Father unless that person comes by means of Me"* (the Son) **John 14:6**. Elisha was dealing with Naaman's proudful attitude. While he can give orders to others, nobody can give orders to God. So in order to become well, Naaman would have to obey a mere servant, but, he turned and went away in rage.

III. 2 KINGS 5:13-15a

2nd Kgs. 5:13 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?— It would be feasible to use tact at this emotional time. So,

² <https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/2kings-lbw.htm>
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Naaman's servants went to him and they spoke to him. *"Sir, if the prophet had told you to do a difficult thing, you would have done it. Surely it is much easier to wash. It is much easier to get a remedy in that way."* However, in his thinking, he almost thought that he preferred to be ill. But his servants showed wisdom telling Naaman that he would have done a difficult action if the prophet said it face to face, but surely this was a simple and more easier thing to obey even from the servant of Elisha.

2nd Kgs. 5:14 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. So Naaman followed their advice, and he went to the Jordan River. He bathed in the Jordan River 7 times, and God cured him. So, Naaman obeyed Elisha, the man of God. His skin was restored and became healthy like the flesh of a little child, and he was cleansed.

2nd Kgs. 5:15 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. Naaman and all his men went back to Elisha, the man of God, and stood in front of him. Naaman said this to him. *"Now I know that the God of Israel is the only God. Please accept a gift from me; I am your servant."* Many people still want to do things in order to earn that freedom. But they must be humble in front of God. They must confess their sin to Him. And they must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. If they do so, He will make them free. It is impossible to earn that freedom, because it is a free gift from God. The 16th verse shows that Elisha refused the present (**5:16**). He wanted to show that God's love is free. You cannot work for it and you cannot buy it.

SUMMARY:

1Naaman is captain of the army of the king of Syria; great and honorable because the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria. The Lord was using Naaman to bring about His purposes. He was a mighty man of valor, but he had a serious disease in his skin. He was a leper. **2**The soldiers of the Syrian army had made attacks against Israel, and during one attack, they captured a little Israelite girl, who became the maid for Naaman's wife. **3**She told Naaman's wife about the Prophet Elisha that's in Samaria who would heal leprosy. **4**Naaman discussed this with the king of Syria of what the Israelite girl had said, for he's in the land of Israel, their enemy. **5**The king strongly urged Naaman to go to the king of Israel for help, with gifts, for he wanted the leader of his army to be healthy (**2Kings 5:1-5**).

9Naaman came standing at the door of the house of Elisha with his horses and chariot. **10**But, Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, *"Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean."* **11**But Naaman was so upset and went away. **12**Naaman was thinking about the rivers in Damascus was better than the rivers in Israel that he could go to, and went away in a rage! (**2Kings 5:9-12**).

13The servants of Naaman showed wisdom telling him that he would have done a difficult action if the prophet said it face to face, but surely this was a simple and more easier thing to obey even from the servant of Elisha. **14**So Naaman followed their advice, and he went to the Jordan River. He bathed in the Jordan River 7 times, and God cured him. His skin was restored and became healthy like the flesh of a little child, and he was cleansed. **15**Naaman and all his men went back to Elisha, the man of God, and stood in front of him (**2Kings 5:13-15a**).