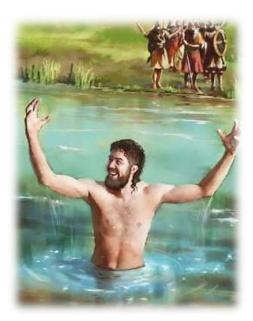
A Conversion And A Curse Il Kings 5

Conversion of an "outsider" . . . it's all about grace! 5:1-19

- ◆Aram (Syrians) = Israel's frequent enemy in Kings (I Kgs. 20, 22).
- ◆Naaman's leprosy (generic term) was "white" (5:27) as in Ex.4:7, Num. 12:10, and thus probably vitiligo. See Lev. 13,14 for leprosy.
- ♦Why is this little girl so concerned for her captor?
- ◆Why the stubborn ignorance by King Jehoram? (see 1:2,6)
- ♦Why does Naaman feel insulted? How is his response like many?
- ◆A spiritual transformation follows the physical, as 5x in 15-18 he calls himself "your servant." New worldview = YHWH alone!
- ◆Is Elisha too soft on Naaman (no "lordship demand" in 18,19)?

Curse upon an "insider" . . . it's all about greed! 5:20-27

- ◆Contrast Elisha (vs.16, As the Lord lives...) with Gehazi (vs. 20).
- ◆Gehazi's curse for obscuring grace could be worse--Gal. 1:9.



Is Gehazi's greed rare? Do folks sometimes seek to mix greed with God's good news? See I Tim. 6:5b.

How does Jesus see this story as applicable to His situation in His hometown (Lk. 4:27). How might it apply to us?