

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Kings Chapters 4-5! 3/16-17/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Review: 2 KINGS – Chapter 1 – God Judges Ahaziah; Chapter 2 – Elijah Ascends to Heaven; Elisha Performs Miracles; Chapter 3 - Moab Rebels Against Israel.

THIS WEEK: 2 KINGS – Chapter 4 – Elisha and the Widow’s Oil – (vs. 1-7); Elisha Raises the Shunammite’s Son – (vs. 8-37); Elisha Purifies the Pot of Stew – (vs. 38-41); Elisha Feeds One Hundred Men – (vs. 42-44). Chapter 5 – Naaman’s Leprosy Cleansed – (vs. 1-19); Gehazi’s Greed – (vs. 20-27).

Elisha and the Widow's Oil - 2Ki 4:1 *A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know (Josephus says it was Obadiah) that your servant feared the LORD. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves."*

- In those days, when you borrowed money, you could pledge yourself as security for the money. One of the sons of the prophets had pledged his life for a debt. He died. His two sons then become the security for his debt. Then the creditor had come to take and make slaves out of his widow’s two sons.

2Ki 4:2-3 *So Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" And she said, "Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar (Gr - asuk "awsook" – small anointing oil flask) of oil." [3] Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels (Gr- keily "kelee"- vessel, pot) from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few.*

- Go out and borrow all the pitchers, pots, and empty vessels, get as many as you possibly can from your neighbors.

2Ki 4:4 *And when you have come in, you shall shut the door (vs. 4:4,5-oil; 21,33- raises dead) behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones."*

- **Shut the door behind you.** Since the widow's need was private, the provision was to be private also. Furthermore, no one, including Elisha from the outside was permitted to come in, demonstrating the miracle happened only by God's power. God alone multiplied exceedingly, just a little anointing oil into much, filling all the vessels to meet the widow's need!
- **Shut the door! Twice today, in the miracles of multiplying oil and raising the dead son, there is the instruction to "shut the door." Am I aware of the importance of this? God desires my full attention, full credit and full glory! How often do I do that? (Psa 46:10a) Be still, and know that I am God!**

2Ki 4:5-6 So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured (poured and poured!) it out into these vessels. [6] Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another vessel." So the oil ceased (that was the end of it).

- **Imagine the tears flowing as the oil flows.** Imagine the praise that is being lifted to the *LORD*! Imagine the thoughts of her husband who had carried that little flask of anointing oil and left it for them.
- **So the oil ceased.** Notice the limit is human supply not divine supply. As long as there was a vessel to fill, there was sufficient oil. It only ceased to flow when there was no vessel to receive it. It is like our hearts when there is an empty, longing heart, there is a continual overflowing fountain of salvation. If we find in any place or at any time that the oil ceases to flow, it is because there are no empty vessels; no souls hungering and thirsting for righteousness.
- **Is there room in my heart for Jesus and the Father? (Joh 14:23) Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Lord, please take away anything and everything that is a blockage in my heart against You!"**

2Ki 4:7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest."

- **Here was a miracle of God.** There is a similarity between this miracle, and the one with Elijah and the Zarephath woman, whom during the whole period of the famine, the oil and the flour never ran out.
- **Now, again we find God working in a miraculous way to provide for this widow's need.** As Elisha said, "Just go and borrow all the pans and all the vessels that you can get from your neighbors, and then take the oil that you have, and just fill all the pots, and all of the vessels. Then sell what you must, to pay the debt, and just live off the rest of the oil."

Elisha and the Shunammite Woman - 2Ki 4:8 *Now it happened one day that Elisha went to Shunem (half-way between Elisha's hometown and Mount Carmel), where there was a notable (great, wealthy) woman, and she persuaded him to eat some food. So it was, as often as he passed by, he would turn in there to eat some food.*

- **Elisha seems to be very sociable person.** You find him mixing with the people. The woman invited him in for bread, so every time he passed by that way. Elisha was not at all interested in money or material things. He was willing to just go in and eat bread. We will see his disinterest in material things. He was a fellow who was very satisfied and content to just serve the *LORD*, living on what God provided. He was not after material gain.

2Ki 4:9-10 And she said to her husband, "Look now, I know (having great perception) that this is a holy man of God, who passes by us regularly. [10] Please, let us make a small upper room (bedroom) on the wall; and let us put a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand; so it will be, whenever he comes to us, he can turn in there."

- **Let us make a little guest room for the prophet.** Put a bed in there, table and all, and whenever he comes by it is his room available for him.

2Ki 4:11-13 And it happened one day that he came there, and he turned in to the upper room and lay down there. [12] Then he said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite woman." When he had called her, she stood before him. [13] And he said to him, "Say now to her, 'Look, you have been concerned for us with all this care. What can I do for you? Do you want me to speak on your behalf to the king or to the commander of the army?' " She answered, "I dwell among my own people."

- She said, "I don't need any favors, I'm satisfied."

2Ki 4:14-16 So he said, "What then is to be done for her?" And Gehazi answered, "Actually, she has no son, and her husband is old." [15] So he said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the doorway. [16]

Then he said, "About this time next year you shall embrace a son (like Abraham and Sarah)" And she said, "No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your maidservant (don't get my hopes up)!"

- Next year at about this time, you are going to be holding a child, your son. And she said, No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your maidservant! You know, that is impossible! (**Gen 18:14**) *Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."*

2Ki 4:17 *But the woman conceived, and bore a son when the appointed time had come, of which Elisha had told her.*

Elisha Raises the Shunammite's Son - 2Ki 4:18-23 *And the child grew. Now it happened one day that he went out to his father, to the reapers. [19] And he said to his father, "My head, my head! (He probably had a sun stroke). " So he said to a servant, "Carry him to his mother." [20] When he had taken him and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died. [21] And she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God (Elisha), shut the door upon him, and went out. [22] Then she called to her husband, and said, "Please send me one of the young men and one of the donkeys, that I may run to the man of God and come back." [23] So he (her husband) said, "Why are you going to him today? It is neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath." And she said, "It is well."*

- A woman of faith. She did not really say to her husband, "You know your son is dead, he is lying on the prophet's bed." She said, "Just send me a donkey and a young man. I must get to the prophet." Elisha was in the area of Mount Carmel, where she is heading. She said, "It is well." A statement of faith.

2Ki 4:24 *Then she saddled a donkey, and said to her servant, "Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace for me unless I tell you."*

- In other words, "Don't slow down unless I tell you to, but let's get moving!"

2Ki 4:25-26 *And so she departed, and went to the man of God at Mount Carmel. So it was, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to his servant Gehazi, "Look, the Shunammite woman! [26] Please run now to meet her, and say to her, 'Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?' " And she answered, "It is well."*

- He could tell that the way she was driving that little donkey that there was something wrong. So, he sent his servant Gehazi to find out. "What's your problem?" "Is it well with your husband? Is it well with you? Is it well with your child?" She said, "It is well."

2Ki 4:27 *Now when she came to the man of God at the hill, she caught him by the feet, but Gehazi came near to push her away. But the man of God (Elisha) said, "Let her alone; for her soul is in deep distress, and the LORD has hidden it from me, and has not told me."*

- How remarkable! Elisha is surprised when God did not speak to him. I am always surprised when God does speak to me! Elisha was so tuned in that he was shocked here, that the woman was obviously in trouble, and God did not show him what the problem was.
- **How tuned in, am I to my Lord? Whenever I see a word or phrase jump off the bible or when I am just praying and I hear Him speak, am I becoming more intuitive, learning to hear from Him? Lord, help me to listen!**

2Ki 4:28 *So she said, "Did I ask a son of my lord? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me'?"*

- With this, Elisha realizes that the problem is with her son. She said, "Look I didn't ask for a son, and I said don't deceive me." He realized that the son was in bad shape.
- Elisha already knows. Notice he does not ask. She did not even have to say her son is dead.

2Ki 4:29 *Then he (Elisha) said to Gehazi, "Get yourself ready, and take my staff in your hand, and be on your way. If you meet anyone, do not greet him; and if anyone greets you, do not answer him; but lay my staff on the face of the child."*

- Gehazi, make a beeline, fifteen miles, get to that place! Do not meet anyone, do not talk to anyone, do not greet anyone. If anyone greets you, do not answer him. When you get there, *Lay my staff on the face of the child.* That is the instruction that has given.

2Ki 4:30 *And the mother of the child said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you (Elisha)." So he arose and followed her.*

- Here is a desperate mother! She is not going to just allow a servant to run and place the staff. She said, "I am not leaving you. You are coming with me." (**2Ki 2:2b,4b**) *Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!"* So they went down to Bethel; Jericho. **Am I that faithful? Never to leave You!**

2Ki 4:31-33 *Now Gehazi went on ahead of them, and laid the staff on the face of the child; but there was neither voice nor hearing. Therefore he went back to meet him, and told him, saying, "The child has not*

awakened." [32] When Elisha came into the house, there was the child, lying dead on his bed. [33] He went in therefore, shut the door behind the two of them, and prayed to the LORD.

- You can bet that he did! What do I do here? Even, what I do not understand. Why the gift of a child and now this situation. What is going on in this scene? What do You want to do here? Elisha begins to pray.

2Ki 4:34 And he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm.

- That is an impact of the action that God had called him to do.

2Ki 4:35 He returned and walked back and forth in the house, and again went up and stretched himself out on him; then the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.

- After a while, the child sneezed seven times, which was an indication, not only of life, but liveliness. Some have reported it as an ancient tradition that when God breathed into Adam the breath of life the first evidence of his being alive was sneezing, which gave rise to the usage of paying respect to those that sneeze. Some observe here that sneezing clears the head.

2Ki 4:36-37 And he called Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite woman." So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, "Pick up your son (who is now alive!)" [37] So she went in, fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground; then she picked up her son and went out.

- Here is God's miraculous power working through Elisha. Earlier when Elijah said, "What do you want? What is your request?" Elisha said, "I want a double portion of the Spirit that you have." Here we find Elisha, now exercising this ministry, and the power of the Spirit. We have about seventeen miracles recorded in the life of Elisha; even one after his death. Some guy was killed in battle. They threw his body into this pit, containing Elisha's bones. When his body hit the bones of Elisha, he revived!

Elisha Purifies the Deadly Stew - 2Ki 4:38-40 And Elisha returned to Gilgal, and there was a famine in the land. Now the sons of the prophets were sitting before him; and he said to his servant, "Put on the large pot, and boil stew for the sons of the prophets." [39] So one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered from it a lapful of wild gourds, and came and sliced them into the pot of stew, though they did not know what they were. [40] Then they served it to the men to eat. Now it happened, as they were eating the stew, that they cried out and said, "Man of God, there is death in the pot!" And they could not eat it.

- These wild gourds were bitter and obnoxious. When they tried to eat the stew, they just said that this is horrible. We cannot eat that! "There is death in the pot!"

2Ki 4:41 So he said, "Then bring some flour." And he put it into the pot, and said, "Serve it to the people, that they may eat." And there was nothing harmful in the pot.

- And there was nothing harmful in the pot: There was nothing inherently purifying in the flour Elisha put in the pot. The real purification was a miraculous work of God! Notice that in these miracles of Elisha how things are added to overcome the evil.
- **How is the Church to meet death in the pot?** I believe it is to imitate Elisha. Not to attempt to get the wild gourds out of the pot; they are cut too small, and are too mixed in to be removed. We must look to God for help, and use the means indicated here. 'Bring flour, or salt as in the previous miracle.
- **By God's gracious working it killed the poison. The Church must cast the blessed gospel** of the grace of God into the poisoned pot, and false doctrine will not be able to destroy men's souls as it now does.
- **Believing that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, that it transforms lives.** If we actually pray, Lord, fill us afresh with Your Spirit, grant us power to communicate the truths of Your Word, if we throw "flour" into the pot, that is the curative thing. It is not by subtracting. It is adding.
- **As I see 'death in the pot' all around me, may I respond by "turning on the light of the Gospel" and not trying and praying to drive out the darkness!**

2Ki 4:42-44 Then a man came from Baal Shalisha, and brought the man of God (Elisha) bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves (buns) of barley bread, and newly ripened grain in his knapsack. And he (Elisha) said, "Give it to the people, that they may eat." [43] But his servant (Gehazi) said, "What? Shall I set this before one hundred men?" He (Elisha) said again, "Give it to the people, that they may eat; for thus says the LORD: 'They shall eat and have some left over.' [44] So (Elisha) he set it before them; and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD.

- **Give it to the people, that they may eat; Is that not what He is telling us to do! Give, tell, proclaim the Gospel, His Word to the people that they may eat! How faithful are we in that?**
- The multiplication of the loaves in accordance with the word of the Lord through His prophet anticipated the Messianic ministry of Jesus Himself (*Joh 6:11-13a*) *And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given*

thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. [12] So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." [13] Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets.

Chapter 5 – Pride and Greed - Naaman Cleansed of Leprosy! By the end of the chapter, Naaman has become an Israeli believer and Gehazi has become an idolatrous leper!

2Ki 5:1 Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great and honorable man in the eyes of his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was also a mighty man of valor, but a leper.

- Naaman was the captain of the Syrian army. He was a great and honorable man in Syria, because the LORD had actually helped him to subdue many nations. He was a mighty and brave man, but he was a leper. Some of the lighter forms would not incapacitate a man from discharging the duties of a courtier and warrior. Pagan notions did not isolate lepers as God told Israel to do.

2Ki 5:2-3 And the Syrians had gone out on raids, and had brought back captive a young girl from the land of Israel. She waited on Naaman's wife. [3] Then she said to her mistress, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy."

- The young girl said, it is too bad your husband is not with the prophet in Israel, because he could heal him of his leprosy. Notice her concern for the conquering Syrian commander. One would think she would be bitter against him as she was taken captive and is now serving Naaman's wife. What a great example for us!
- **O Lord, every single unbeliever is a leper, in bondage to sin. Help me to have the love and compassion for them as this your girl really wanted to see Naaman cleansed; healed from his leprosy. Please give me such a loving heart!**

2Ki 5:4 -5 And Naaman went in and told his master, saying, "Thus and thus said the girl who is from the land of Israel." [5] Then the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he departed and took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold - (750 pounds of silver and 150 pounds of gold – worth millions today), and ten changes of clothing.

- It was told to Naaman and he told the king that there was a prophet in Israel that could cure him of his leprosy. So Ben-Hadad sent a formal letter to the king of Israel.

2Ki 5:6-7 Then he brought the letter to the king of Israel (Jehoram), which said, Now be advised, when this letter comes to you, that I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may heal him of his leprosy. [7] And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me."

- He said, 'Look, am I God that I can heal him of his leprosy? The guy is just looking for trouble because when he finds out that his leprosy cannot be healed, Ben-Hadad will strike back in disappointment. He's trying to start a fight. So Jehoram the king had torn his clothes and was all upset.'

2Ki 5:8 So it was, when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Please let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."

- When Elisha heard of how the king was so upset because of this demand. He said to send Naaman down to me, and he will know that there is a God in Israel! Note how Elisha recognized this ministry opportunity!
- Elisha says to send him to me, I will cleanse him of his leprosy; that God is going to do it in his life. But it is not the aim of Elisha here that Naaman goes back to Syria, simply cleansed of his leprosy. He wants Naaman to have a real living encounter with the true and the living God and as a result of God cleansing him of his leprosy. I want him to know that there is a real God in this world and that I am the servant of that real God. I want Naaman to go back to Syria knowing the true and the living God, the God of Israel! What an honest heart that Elisha has!

2Ki 5:9 Then Naaman went with his horses and chariot, and he stood at the door of Elisha's house.

- Naaman came to Elisha's house. Elisha did not even go out to meet him but sent his servant Gehazi out.

2Ki 5:10 And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean."

- Go down to the Jordan River and just wash in it seven times, and after you've dipped seven times, you'll be cleansed of your leprosy."

- **Elisha did not come out purposely so that when Naaman is cleansed** of his leprosy, he will know this thing is 100% all God and nothing to do with Elisha. That is just the way that God wanted it. God is saying the miracle does not have anything to do with Elisha, who is His messenger. The miracle is totally all from God.

2Ki 5:11 *But Naaman became furious (too prideful), and went away and said, "Indeed, I said to myself, 'He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy.'*

- **Naaman became enraged.** He said, "That guy didn't even have the graciousness to come out and meet me himself. He sent a servant out to me and then tells me to wash in that muddy Jordan River."

2Ki 5:12 *Are not the Abanah and the Parpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage.*

- **We have better rivers up in Damascus.** Naaman thinks that, if washing is to cure him, his own rivers may better serve the purpose. Their water was brighter, clearer, and colder than that of Jordan. However, it was obedience to God's Word that was the issue, not the quality of the water.
- **D.L. Moody rightly declared that Naaman had two problems, leprosy, and pride.** And it would not be until he put his pride down that he would be able to experience God's cleansing.

2Ki 5:13 *And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, "My father (warmly), if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?"*

- **Naaman headed home in a rage. He was mad.** As they were going, one of his servants said to him, "You know, had that prophet told you to do some great deed, you know, go out and slay the dragon and get the seven golden apples, had he given you some great deed to do, you would be glad to do it. Because it's just such a simple thing, why don't you try it? Who is it going to hurt?"

2Ki 5:14 *So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.*

- **They came to the Jordan River and Naaman dipped himself** seven times in the Jordan River. When he came up the seventh time, his flesh was pink like a baby's flesh. The leprosy was gone. *Seven times*, to show that the healing was a work of God, for seven is used to symbolize divine perfection, completeness, and the finished work of God.

Gehazi's Greed and Punishment - 2Ki 5:15 *And he returned to the man of God, he and all his aides, and came and stood before him; and he said, "Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel; now therefore, please take a gift from your servant."*

- **Naaman, who had thought the gods were the Syrian gods,** but now his experience had completely changed that. He knew Israel's God was God alone, the sovereign *LORD* of all! Had he seen other lepers cleansed, perhaps the sight would not have convinced him, but the mercy of the cure affected him more than the miracle of it. Those who have experienced it themselves are best able to speak of the power of divine grace! **May we think of that, as we witness!**

2Ki 5:16 *But he (Elisha) said, "As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive nothing." (giving God all the glory!) And he urged him to take it, but he refused.*

- **Naaman was so excited that he headed back to the prophet's house,** loaded down with all kinds of gifts that the king of Syria had sent. He came to Elisha, seeking to give him gifts, who said, "No, I don't want your gifts. Keep them." Now in coming back, he acknowledged that there was no God in all the earth but in Israel!" I know that." I pray that you will take this blessing.
- **In the healing of Naaman we find some interesting things.** One is that we really have difficulty with just accepting the grace of God. We would all of us like to do some great wonderful thing for the Lord. You know, I would like to go out and conquer a thousand giants or something. I want to do some great thing for God.
- **Just to receive from God the simplicity with which God gives to me.** The fact that He gives to me so freely and in such a simple way that I can't get any credit for it. Somehow I would like to deserve or earn God's blessings. But I can't. I can only receive by grace the goodness of God!
- **Salvation is such a simple thing. (Act 16:31)** *So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."* Oh how simple it is. But we rebel against that simplicity. "Now Lord, I'm going to serve You and I'm going to go out and witness, pray, and do this and that." It is hard to accept grace gracefully, isn't it? Just to accept the fact that God loves me and to receive His gifts gracefully.
- **Lord help me to more fully understand your great and unlimited love for me; thereby to receive Your grace gracefully! With a stronger desire to be more loving and fully obedient to You!**

2Ki 5:17 So Naaman said, "Then, if not, please let your servant be given two mule-loads of earth; for your servant will no longer offer either burnt offering or sacrifice to other gods, but to the LORD.

- **Two mule-loads of earth.** Naaman said if you won't receive any gifts for cleansing me from leprosy and restoring my flesh, then let me be given two mule-loads of earth! Can I take as much Israeli dirt back as two mules can carry? Naaman wanted a load of Israelite soil on which to make burnt offerings and sacrifices to the LORD when he returned to Damascus. This request confirmed how Naaman had changed. Also he wanted those back home to know miracle when they see my new totally healed skin! Let them know just what happened there!
- **This guy's on fire. He is going to drive everybody out of his mind** when he comes back to Damascus, and his wife is so excited, she looks at him, he has new skin like a baby. He is saying. "Who cares? Look at this dirt! I got two mules full of dirt, as much as I could carry. I am a new man, in a sense, born again!"

2Ki 5:18 Yet in this thing may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the temple of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand, and I bow down in the temple of Rimmon—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD please pardon your servant in this thing.

- **When I go back, the king Ben-Hadad worships Rimmon.** I am the one who goes with him, helping him. He has aged and he is going to be excited. I am all healed and restored now, you know. When I go back and have to bow down to help my master kneel down to Rimmon. Will the LORD forgive me? I will not be there to worship. There is only one God. He is the only God that I am going to worship for the rest of my life!

2Ki 5:19-20 Then he (Elisha) said to him, "Go in peace." So he departed from him a short distance. [20] But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "Look, my master has spared Naaman this Syrian, while not receiving from his hands what he brought; but as the LORD lives, I will run after him and take something from him."

- **When Gehazi saw Elisha turning down these gifts, he began to think,** "Wow, what I could do with just a little bit of that loot. I could buy an olive orchard, a vineyard. I can hire me some servants. Man, I could be set up if I just had a little bit of that loot." And he covets, thinking of what he could do with some of that reward that Naaman was offering. We will see another downward spiral from his covetousness!

2Ki 5:21 So Gehazi pursued Naaman. When Naaman saw him running after him, he got down from the chariot to meet him, and said, "Is all well?" [22] And he said, "All is well. My master has sent me (Gehazi is lying), saying, 'Indeed, just now two young men of the sons of the prophets have come to me from the mountains of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two changes of garments.'

- **Gehazi went chasing after Naaman.** They said, "It looks like the servant of the prophet is coming." So he said, "Let's wait. Maybe something's gone wrong." When Gehazi came up, he said, "Is everything fine?" He lyingly said, "Everything is fine, except that my master had a couple of young prophets come in and they didn't have much. So, he would like a couple of changes of apparel for them and a talent of silver."

2Ki 5:23-24 So Naaman said, "Please, take two talents (150 pounds of silver)." And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and handed them to two of his servants; and they carried them on ahead of him. [24] When he came to the citadel, he (Gehazi) took them from their hand, and stored them away in the house; then he let the men go, and they departed.

- Naaman said, "Here, take a couple of talents of silver," and he was happy to give it to him. In fact they sent two fellows back carrying bags. But when they got to the gate of the city, Gehazi said, "That's great. I'll take it from here." And he took it and put it in his house. And came whistling in.

2Ki 5:25-26 Now he went in and stood before his master. Elisha said to him, "Where did you go, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant did not go anywhere." [26] Then he said to him, "Did not my heart go with you when the man turned back from his chariot to meet you? Is it time to receive money and to receive clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male and female servants?

- **Elisha said, Where have you been? Gehazi said, I didn't go anywhere.** Elisha said, Did not my spirit go with you when you went out to their chariot, stopped them and you received the money, the garments, the olive groves, the vineyards, the sheep, the oxen, menservants, and maidservants?
- **Elisha, reading Gehazi's mind starts to discern what was on his heart.** These are the things he thought he would buy with the money: the olive groves and vineyards. He is going to have servants of his own. He was going to set himself up. The prophet starts laying out the things in his mind to do with this money.
- **Elisha was so protective of the faith and the new life of this man.** Then he watches Gehazi go out and take advantage of the situation of which he would not dream. He watched the whole thing as God gave him revelation. **May we be careful not to mar the beautiful picture of God's grace by our actions!**

2Ki 5:27 Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever." And he went out from his presence leprous, as white as snow.

- **The leprosy that was upon Naaman is going to be upon you and your family.** Gehazi went out from his presence a leper. Notice how Naaman has become a Believer, and Gehazi has become an idolatrous leper, completely switching places!
- **The first portion of the chapter is very happy.** But the latter part gives us a very sober warning. It is a much-needed warning concerning covetousness, especially among leaders in the body of Christ and how God sees the importance of being careful about those things and to honor God. Otherwise, we can end up on a shelf and disqualified, as Paul said, **(2Co 13:7)** *Now I pray to God that you do no evil, not that we should appear approved, but that you should do what is honorable, though we may seem disqualified.*
- **When God sees in a leader like Gehazi, feeling free to fleece His people because of the hardness of his heart, then what God has to do at that point is to recognize this person is a danger to my people.** So now I am going to do something that will disqualify him. That is what He did. He smote Gehazi with leprosy. Today, He would likely simply put us on the shelf, unusable, out of ministry. **Lord, help me! Keep me usable! All by Your grace!**

SUMMARY:

- **Shut the door! Twice today, in the miracles of multiplying oil and raising the dead son,** there is the instruction to “shut the door.” Am I aware of the importance of this? God desires my full attention, full credit and full glory! How often do I do that? **(Psa 46:10)** *Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!*
- **Is there room in my heart for Jesus and the Father? (Joh 14:23)** *Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.* Lord, please take away anything that is a blockage in my heart against You!
- **How tuned in, am I to my Lord?** Whenever I see a word or phrase jump off the bible or when I am just praying and I hear Him speak, am I becoming more intuitive, learning to hear from Him? Lord, help me!
- **As I see ‘death in the pot’ all around me,** may I respond by “*turning on the light of the Gospel*” and not trying and praying to drive out the darkness!
- **Give it to the people, that they may eat;** Is that not what He is telling us to do! Give, tell, proclaim the Gospel, His Word to the people that they may eat! How faithful are we in that?
- **O Lord, every single unbeliever is a leper, in bondage to sin.** Help me to have the love and compassion for them as this girl really wanted to see Naaman cleansed from his leprosy. Please give me such a loving heart!
- **Lord help me to more fully understand your great and unlimited love for me; thereby to receive Your grace graciously!** With a stronger desire to be more loving and fully obedient to You!
- **Thank You for Your grace and Your mercies, which endure forever!**

GRACE – Michael W. Smith (3:47/3:52)

I was lost when You found me here You pulled me close and held me near

And I'm a fool, but still You love I'll be Your fool for the King of love

You gave me wings so I could fly And gave me a song to color the sky

And all I have is all from You And all I want is all of You

It's grace, Your grace (Your grace) I'm nothing without You Your grace, Your grace Shines on me

And there've been days when I've walked away Too much to carry, nothing left to say

Forgive me, Lord, when I'm weak and lost For You traded Heaven for a wooden cross

And all these years You've carried me You've been my eyes when I could not see

And beauty grows in the driving rain Your oil of gladness in the times of pain

Your grace, Your grace I'm nothing without You Your grace, Your grace Shines on me

Oh it's Your grace Your grace, Your grace I'm nothing without You Your grace, Your grace

Shines on me (Oh yeah) Shines on me Shines on me Your grace, it shines on me Shines on me Shines on me

Your grace, it's Your grace (It's Your grace) Shines on me Shines on me

Your grace, it shines on me Shines on me (Shines on me) Shines on me It's Your grace

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study II Kings, Chapters 6-7