

Lessons From The Story of Naaman

Basis=2 Kng 5:1-14

Intro:

1. The story of Naaman in 2 Kng 5 has many lessons for us.
2. His story is in many ways our story.

I. He Was Afflicted With A Dreaded Disease, vs 1

1. "Leprosy" not necessarily contagious, but dreaded skin disease.
2. It was something he could do nothing about
3. In our story, sin is the dreaded disease about which we are helpless, Rom 3:23, 6:23, Jam 1:14,15, Heb 10:4,11

II. Hope For Healing Begins With Hearing, vs 2,3

1. A slave girl told of a cure
2. Naaman wasn't too arrogant to listen to a captive
3. He didn't know of a cure until someone told him
4. Faith comes from hearing, Rom 10:13-17
5. We need to tell the world of the hope...good news, Mk 16:15, Mt 28:19,20
6. It doesn't have to be told from a pulpit

Poem:

"I felt lonely and strange in an unknown land
With a strange new way of life,
But I found my work was just to learn
To wait on my master's wife.
For my master went in his chariot grand
With horses and servants too,
And travelled to far Samaria
With his splendid retinue.
It would take too long for me to relate
The story they told to me,
But I'll simply tell how the cure was wrought
That dispelled his leprosy."

III. Naaman Believed The Captive's Story, vs 4-6

1. From Damascus to Samaria, 110 plus miles (New Orleans to Lafayette = 130 miles)
2. Approx 750 lbs of silver; 150 lbs of gold; 10 sets of clothing; letter to king
3. How much would you give to be cured of sin?
4. Yet God's healing is not for sale, vs 15,16
5. Many "healers" today only perform when the "gift" is large enough.
6. Naaman's faith caused him to begin his search for a cure.

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IV. He Allowed Preconceived Ideas To Hinder His Cure,
vs 8-12

1. Naaman didn't like what he heard
2. Many are like that, 2 Tim 4:3,4
3. Many refuse:
 - a. baptism
 - b. one church
 - c. male leadership
 - d. proper worship
 - e. proper organization
4. Too many people are thinking for themselves, not letting God guide them, Jer 10:23, Isa 55:8-9

V. Cleansing Requires Obedience, vs 13,14

1. Naaman was encouraged to do what he was told
2. When Naaman dipped 7 times, God fulfilled his promise
3. Our story is no different, we must obey to be cured.
Mk 16:16, Act 22:16, I Pet 3:21

Conclusion:

1. If you were Naaman...
 - a. would you have believed the captive's story?
 - b. would you have gone to Samaria?
 - c. would you have dipped seven times in Jordan?
 - d. would you have been cured?
2. You are not Naaman...your disease is worse.
3. Will you let Jesus cure your affliction?

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