



## Humble yourself before the Lord

(PART 1 OF 2) - October 1, 2018

**2 KINGS 5:1 NKJV- (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 had a lot going for him, but what he had against him was devastating. He was **a leper**, which meant that he had a horrible, incurable disease that would slowly result in his death. No matter how good and successful everything else was in Naaman's life, he was **a leper**. What is a leper? Leper is a generic term applied to a variety of skin disorders from psoriasis to true leprosy. The symptoms ranged from white patches on the skin, to running sores, to the lost of digits on the fingers or toes (**Leviticus 13:3**).

**Verse one** tells us he was a great and honorable man in the eyes of man. But only because Syria was winning victories in war over other countries. The verse also says he was a commander in the army of Syria. Let me bring it home today. Naaman would be a well educated man with some kind of degree (Phd, Masters, etc.) well known for his strategic warfare plans. Let us not forget, he served in some high position or status. Now there is nothing wrong with the accolades or status one may be in. But don't forget how we got there! "Humble yourself before the Lord." He was looked up to and possibly envied because of his talents or gift. No one could tell him anything except the one who was above him and that was the king (Of Syria). Therefore, Naaman, as we will find out soon, looked down on others. Naaman was suffering physically, spiritually and mentally. Physically he was suffering from a dreadful disease. Mentally he thought he was better than everybody else because of his position and status. Spiritually he was out to please the king and not the "King."

In **verse 2** it tells us about a "Young little girl" who was taken captive by the Syrian army and she was made Naaman's wife's servant. This little girl is not mentioned by name at all. It's almost as if she a non important figure in this story, but she plays a huge role. A lesson to us, they may not have the position, status or honor we have, but don't never look down on them because you never know the reason they are really in your life. In **verse three** she tells her mistress, "**If only my master were with the prophet** who is in Samaria (**Elijah**), for he would heal him of his leprosy. Naaman either heard what the little girl said or he heard about what the little girl said and now we discover the truth.....

Tune in next week to find out the Lord's remedy and Naamans response to it.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** PSALMS 25:8-9

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** You were made to reflect God's glory. Shine on.