Crossroads International Church Singapore Dr. Rick Griffith

Title

Not Preached Yet Single Message

NLT 30 Minutes

**Naaman Healed of Leprosy   
*2 Kings 5***

**Topic:** Submission

**Subject:** What should we do when God shows us that He alone can solve our problems?

**Complement:** Humbly submit to God as the only solution to your problems.

**Purpose:** The listeners will trust God alone to resolve their key issue they face.

**Meditation:**

**Reading:**

**Song:**

# Introduction

### Interest: Often our problems make us at a loss how to respond.

### Need: What perplexities are you facing?

### Intro to MPs: How does God show us that He alone can solve our problems (that He is sovereign and thus better than any other solution)?

### Background: Israel had a strong enemy to the north called Aram, or modern-day Syria. They were stronger militarily but weaker spiritually. They needed to see that Israel’s God was far superior to their own puny deities.

### Preview: We will see three ways that God shows us that he alone can sole our problems.

### Text: Our text is 2 Kings 5.

(The first way that God shows us that he alone can sole our problems is that...)

# I. God shows us that solutions other than His are unreliable.

[Restate MP here.]

## The pagan Naaman recognized that his own strength and god couldn’t remove his leprosy so he went to Israel’s God (1-7).

## During trials we must trust God rather than unreliable sources (such as ourselves, charms, temple rites, astrology, doctors, government, advisors, etc.)

(The second way that God shows us that he alone can sole our problems is that...)

# II. God asks us to obey a seemingly ridiculous command so He’ll get the credit.

[Restate MP here.]

## Naaman wasn’t healed through his own efforts but through a silly procedure prescribed by God’s servant Elisha (8-14).

## God may meet our needs through “inferior” people and “silly” though biblical advice.

(The third way that God shows us that he alone can sole our problems is that...)

# III. God judges us for prideful acting as if He is only there to meet our needs.

[Restate MP here.]

## God judged Gehazi for greedily trying to take advantage of Him (15-27).

## God will discipline us for trying to use him for selfish interests (pride judged through a humbling experience, sickness as in James 5:16, etc.).

(What should we do when God shows us that He alone can solve our problems? How should we respond to the fact that He is sovereign and thus better than any other solution?)

# Conclusion

### Humbly submit to God as the only solution to your problems (MI).

### Main Points

### Exhortation/Application

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

# Questions

# Tentative Subject/Complement Statements

Text

# Possible Illustrations that Apply

### Text

# OT Survey Course Notes

**Naaman Healed of Leprosy   
*2 Kings 5***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

Exegetical Idea: The way God demonstrated His superiority over Baal was by transferring leprosy from the believing foreigner Naaman to the hireling-minded Jew Gehazi.

I. (1-7) The way God demonstrated His superiority over Baal was through Naaman the foreigner seeking *healing* of his leprosy from Israel’s God (he saw Baal as an unconcerned local deity).

A. (1) Naaman thought he had conquered enemies in his own strength but actually the LORD had given him victory and he still couldn’t defeat leprosy.

B. (2-7) Naaman’s pilgrimage for healing from Israel’s God was misunderstood by Jehoram but still emphasizes that even Joram knew that healing comes from God—not Baal.

II. (8-14) The way God demonstrated His superiority over Baal was by healing Naaman’s leprosy through Elisha’s “silly” Yahweh solution instead of the “more respectable” Baalism ritual.

A. (8-12) Naaman initially rejected Elisha’s healing counsel because of the humility involved (he had already humbled himself to go to a foreign country to seek help from an “inferior” king).

B. (13-14) At his servants’ request Naaman followed the advice and received miraculous healing.

III. (15-27) The way God demonstrated His superiority over Baal was through judging Gehazi’s hireling attitude which was akin to Baal’s prophets who used Baal for materialistic purposes.

A. (15-19a) Elisha refused reward from the believing Naaman and granted his concession to feign pagan worship.

B. (19b-27) Gehazi’s hireling perspective (in contrast to Elisha who lacked his greed and lying) was disciplined with Naaman’s leprosy.

**Homiletical Exposition** (cyclical inductive form)

Introduce Subject: How does God show us that He alone can solve our problems (that He is sovereign and thus better than any other solution)?

I. God shows us that solutions other than His are unreliable.

A. The pagan Naaman recognized that his own strength and god couldn’t remove his leprosy so he went to Israel’s God (1-7).

B. During trials we must trust God rather than unreliable sources (such as ourselves, charms, temple rites, astrology, doctors, government, advisors, etc.)

II. God asks us to obey a seemingly ridiculous command so He’ll get the credit.

A. Naaman wasn’t healed through his own efforts but through a silly procedure prescribed by God’s servant Elisha (8-14).

B. God may meet our needs through “inferior” people and “silly” though biblical advice.

III. God judges us for prideful acting as if He is only there to meet our needs.

A. God judged Gehazi for greedily trying to take advantage of Him (15-27).

B. God will discipline us for trying to use him for selfish interests (pride judged through a humbling experience, sickness as in James 5:16, etc.).

Main Idea: Humbly submit to God as the only solution to your problems.

# *Exegetical Idea*:

# I.

# II.

# III.

**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will trust God alone to resolve their key issue they face.

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

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(What should we do when God shows us that He alone can solve our problems? How should we respond to the fact that He is sovereign and thus better than any other solution?)

# Conclusion

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### Main Points

### Exhortation/Application



**Rick Griffith**

2017

Message of 66

**Title**

***Passage***

# Introduction

**Thought Questions**

1. Read the passage aloud. Contrast:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | **Contrast** |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |

1. Text-based question

Text

Text

Text

Text

1. Application to your own Christian experience

Text

Text

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