



Two Servants, Two Opposite Stories

2 Kings 5

6.22.25

Big Idea: Yes, the Bible is relevant for today. Our study of 2 Kings 5 confirms this claim. God's desire is that we learn valuable lessons from the men and women of Scripture. **Romans 15:4** *For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*

- In the Hebrew Bible, 1-2 Kings is a single book that spans a 400-year time period.
- It tells of the rise and fall of Solomon
- The division of the twelve tribes of Israel
 - 10 Tribes in the Northern Kingdom, called Israel. The capital was Samaria.
 - 2 Tribes in the Southern Kingdom, called Judah. The capital was Jerusalem.
- The author is uncertain; some suggest Jeremiah or Ezekiel

The servant's **circumstance** **2 Kings 5:2**

The servant's compassion **2 Kings 5:3**

The servant's confidence **2 Kings 5:3**

- Your past and your adverse circumstances influence you, but they do not have to **define** or **control** you.
- Depression is a focus on the past, anxiousness is a focus on the future, **peace is trusting God in the present.**
- It would have been easy for her to remain silent and dream about Naaman dying a slow and humiliating death.

"Depression is a temporary emotional state which is characterized by exaggerated feelings of sadness. It is a hopelessness that is not consistent with reality. It's something that deals with circumstances in a negative way too long or makes the negative circumstances appear much larger than they really are." – James MacDonald

"Spiritual growth does not always involve learning something new. Our most important growth often is in regard to truth we have already heard but have not fully applied." – John MacArthur

- People are people, nothing more; GOD is GOD, nothing less.
- How can someone with such leadership skills act so immature? We see it all the time in others, and if honest, we see it in ourselves.

Two Ways GOD Uses Our Circumstances:

1. To **mold** us into the image of Christ.
 2. To **reveal** the good and evil in our hearts.
- All sins have a common companion: lying. Sin needs deception to function.

Ephesians 5:25 *Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor..."*

- **I will not lie to you**
- **I will not lie about you**
- **I will not lie for you**

- It is not our circumstances that determine the outcome of our life, it is how we **see God** in our circumstances.

Pastor's Twofold Challenge:

1. What further lesson does GOD want me to learn from 2 Kings 5? Find out by prayerfully reading through 2 Kings 5.
Re: Psalm 119:18
2. Read the following quotes and answer whether you agree or not.

"Why do some Christians seem to find God in a greater way than others? The problem lies not with God, but within the Christian, for some when God placed a desire within their hearts for Him, did something about it." – A. W. Tozer

"As believers we know whatever happens to us happens for God's glory and for our good. (Romans 8:28-29) But in this process toward maturity, it is easy to forget that we must journey through difficulties and struggles as **He prepares us for what is best.**" (That is to become more like Jesus) – Chuck Swindoll

Commending Biblical truth involves more than saying, 'Do it because the Bible says so.' That sort of commendation may result in a kind of obedience that is so begrudging and so empty of delight that the Lord is *not* pleased with it at all. So, there is a second task needed to challenge believers to embrace GOD's will for their lives. Not only must there be clear and accurate *Bible interpretation*, but there must also be an understanding that GOD's commands satisfy our **heart as well as our head**. We must embrace and demonstrate to others that God's commands are not **only right, they are also good**. – Adapted from John Piper

"How we understand the person and character of God the Father affects every area of our lives. If God is the Creator of the entire universe, then it must follow that He is the Lord of the whole universe. There is no part of the world that's outside His Lordship. That means that there must be no part of my life that is outside His Lordship. His holy character has something to say about economics, politics, athletics, romance – everything that we are involved in." – R.C. Sproul