

Be Dressed and Ready

Part 4.

God's Way

2 Kings 5

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. **He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.**

2 Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a **young girl from Israel**, and she served Naaman's wife. **3** She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

4 Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. **5** "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. **6** The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

7 As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

8 When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." **9** So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. **10** Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. **12** Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel?"

Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" **14** So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

1. Naaman had a Need

Vs. 1 **"He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy."**

- Leprosy is no respecter of Persons...
- There were many battles Naaman could fight on his own...
- This was one that reminded him of his Mortality...
- There are Battles and Burdens that remind us we need God...

• Naaman had to learn to look Up not Out

Vs. 7 "As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life?...See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

- If you put your God size Burden on a person you will drive them crazy...

Every one of us have a God sized needs...

Remember the Scarecrow, the Ten Man and the Lion on "The Wizard of Oz"

The Scarecrow said, "If I only had a Brain"

The Ten Man said, "If I only had a Heart"

The Lion said, "If I only had Courage"

Story: I asked God to help me with my School work.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

7 Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

"God specializes in granting strength in the exact area of our weaknesses."

Beth Moore

Naaman had a Need...

2. His Breakthrough came from an Unexpected Person from an Unexpected Place

Vs. 2 Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive **a young girl from Israel**, and she served Naaman's wife. **3** She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

I bet Naaman had tried everything he could find in all of Aram...
He had probably exhausted every possible resource he knew...
And Spoke to every person he could think possible...
Then one day this little girl from Israel says "did you ever try this?"
She was an Unexpected Person from an Unexpected Place...

You know God uses Unexpected People from Unexpected Places

Story: Trip to 216 North Bonnie Brae Street



This is a Story that I Love, of a man and a group of people that I can't wait to meet in Heaven

The man's name is William Seymore

He was a 34 year old black man in the year 1906. He was blind in one eye and he was the son of a freed slave. He was a Pentecostal preacher before he ever received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He was a student of God' word and studied under a well known preacher named Charles Parham in Topeka, Kansas.



William Seymore received an invitation to come to Los Angeles all the way from Kansas, to preach a month of meetings at the church there. He was locked out of the church after his second meeting. He and a group of followers in that area began to meet to gather for prayer at the home of Richard and Ruth Asberry at 216 North Bonnie Brae Street.

It was during those meetings that in April of 1906 the Holy Spirit began to fill individuals. People were receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit including William Seymore. Even the Church that shut him out began coming and receiving the Holy Spirit. People came from all different backgrounds, race and denominations. One person who witnessed one of the meetings there said this.

“They shouted three days and three nights. It was Easter season. The people came from everywhere. By the next morning there was no way of getting near the house. As people came in they would fall under God's power; and the whole city was stirred. They shouted until the foundation of the house gave way, but no one was hurt.”

So many people were crammed into the home and on the front porch that the porch literally collapsed under the load. It was at that point they decided to move their meetings to new location. That location was 312 Azusa Street in downtown Los Angeles.

This one man was an Unexpected Person from an Unexpected Place that God used to bring a Breakthrough to the World. It was through that Revival that God shook the world...

3. His Breakthrough came in an Unexpected Way

9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. **10** Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. **12** Are not.. the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" **14** So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

Naaman almost missed what God had for him because it didn't look the way they thought it would...

God will sometimes change the way things look find out if were following Him or an ideology...

Revival doesn't always look the way you think...

Breakthrough doesn't always come the way you think...

Through the people you think...

From the place you think...

It's called Breakthrough for a reason...

You've got to Breakthrough...

Naaman had to breakthrough his old ways...

The Rivers in Damascus may be nicer but that's not what God was using...

If you want the Breakthrough that God has we have to choose the Rivers God chooses...

- 1. Naaman had a Need**
- 2. His Breakthrough came from an Unexpected Person in an Unexpected Place**
- 3. His Breakthrough came in an Unexpected Way**