



THE GOOD  
AND THE BAD  
AND THE UGLY

CHARACTER STUDIES



**2 Kings 4:12-36**



# 2 Kings 4:8-37

## THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN'S HOSPITALITY

<sup>8</sup>One day Elisha went to Shunem. A prominent woman who lived there persuaded him to eat some food. So whenever he passed by, he stopped there to eat. <sup>9</sup>Then she said to her husband, "I know that the one who often passes by here is a holy man of God, <sup>10</sup>so let's make a small, walled-in upper room and put a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp there for him. Whenever he comes, he can stay there."





# 2 Kings 4:8-37

## THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN'S SON

<sup>11</sup>One day he came there and stopped at the upstairs room to lie down. <sup>12</sup>He ordered his attendant Gehazi, "Call this Shunammite woman." So he called her and she stood before him.

<sup>13</sup>Then he said to Gehazi, "Say to her, 'Look, you've gone to all this trouble for us. What can we do for you? Can we speak on your behalf to the king or to the commander of the army?'" "

She answered, "I am living among my own people."



# 2 Kings 4:8-37

<sup>14</sup>So he asked, "Then what should be done for her?"

Gehazi answered, "Well, she has no son, and her husband is old."

<sup>15</sup>"Call her," Elisha said. So Gehazi called her, and she stood in the doorway. <sup>16</sup>Elisha said, "At this time next year you will have a son in your arms."

Then she said, "No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your servant."

<sup>17</sup>The woman conceived and gave birth to a son at the same time the following year, as Elisha had promised her.





# 2 Kings 4:8-37

## THE SHUNAMMITE'S SON RAISED

<sup>18</sup>The child grew and one day went out to his father and the harvesters. <sup>19</sup>Suddenly he complained to his father, "My head! My head!"

His father told his servant, "Carry him to his mother." <sup>20</sup>So he picked him up and took him to his mother. The child sat on her lap until noon and then died. <sup>21</sup>She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, shut him in, and left.



# 2 Kings 4:8-37

## THE SHUNAMMITE'S SON RAISED

<sup>22</sup>She summoned her husband and said, "Please send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, so I can hurry to the man of God and come back again."

<sup>23</sup>But he said, "Why go to him today? It's not a New Moon or a Sabbath."

She replied, "It's all right."





## 2 Kings 4:8-37

<sup>27</sup>When she came up to the man of God at the mountain, she clung to his feet. Gehazi came to push her away, but the man of God said, "Leave her alone—she is in severe anguish, and the Lord has hidden it from me. He hasn't told me."

<sup>28</sup>Then she said, "Did I ask my lord for a son? Didn't I say, 'Do not lie to me?' "





## 2 Kings 4:8-37

<sup>29</sup>So Elisha said to Gehazi, "Tuck your mantle under your belt, take my staff with you, and go. If you meet anyone, don't stop to greet him, and if a man greets you, don't answer him. Then place my staff on the boy's face."

<sup>30</sup>The boy's mother said to Elisha, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So he got up and followed her.





# 2 Kings 4:8-37

<sup>31</sup>Gehazi went ahead of them and placed the staff on the boy's face, but there was no sound or sign of life, so he went back to meet Elisha and told him, "The boy didn't wake up."





## 2 Kings 4:8-37

<sup>32</sup>When Elisha got to the house, he discovered the boy lying dead on his bed. <sup>33</sup>So he went in, closed the door behind the two of them, and prayed to the Lord. <sup>34</sup>Then he went up and lay on the boy: he put mouth to mouth, eye to eye, hand to hand. While he bent down over him, the boy's flesh became warm.





## 2 Kings 4:8-37

<sup>35</sup>Elisha got up, went into the house, and paced back and forth. Then he went up and bent down over him again. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

<sup>36</sup>Elisha called Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite woman." He called her and she came. Then Elisha said, "Pick up your son." <sup>37</sup>She came, fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground; she picked up her son and left.



**2 Kings 4:12-36**

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**2 Kings 8:1-6**





## 2 Kings 8:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Elisha said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, "Get ready, you and your household, and go live as a resident alien wherever you can. For the Lord has announced a seven-year famine, and it has already come to the land."

<sup>2</sup>So the woman got ready and did what the man of God said. She and her household lived as resident aliens in the land of the Philistines for seven years. <sup>3</sup>When the woman returned from the land of the Philistines at the end of seven years, she went to appeal to the king for her house and field.



# 2 Kings 8:1-6

<sup>4</sup>The king had been speaking to Gehazi, the attendant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me all the great things Elisha has done." <sup>5</sup>While he was telling the king how Elisha restored the dead son to life, the woman whose son he had restored to life came to appeal to the king for her house and field. So Gehazi said, "My lord the king, this is the woman and this is the son Elisha restored to life." <sup>6</sup>When the king asked the woman, she told him the story. So the king appointed a court official for her, saying, "Restore all that was hers, along with all the income from the field from the day she left the country until now."





**2 Kings 4:12-36**

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**2 Kings 8:1-6**



**2 Kings 4:12-36**

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**2 Kings 8:1-6**

**2 Kings 5:20-27**

**THE BAD**



# 2 Kings 5:19-27

<sup>19</sup>So he said to him, "Go in peace."



# 2 Kings 5:19-27

<sup>19</sup>So he said to him, "Go in peace."



Elisha



Naaman





## 2 Kings 5:19-27

After Naaman had traveled a short distance from Elisha, <sup>20</sup>Gehazi, the attendant of Elisha the man of God, thought, "My master has let this Aramean Naaman off lightly by not accepting from him what he brought. As the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him."



## 2 Kings 5:19-27

<sup>21</sup>So Gehazi pursued Naaman. When Naaman saw someone running after him, he got down from the chariot to meet him and asked, "Is everything all right?"

<sup>22</sup>Gehazi said, "It's all right. My master has sent me to say, 'I have just now discovered that two young men from the sons of the prophets have come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them seventy-five pounds of silver and two sets of clothing.' "





## 2 Kings 5:19-27

<sup>23</sup>But Naaman insisted, "Please, accept one hundred fifty pounds." He urged Gehazi and then packed one hundred fifty pounds of silver in two bags with two sets of clothing. Naaman gave them to two of his attendants who carried them ahead of Gehazi. <sup>24</sup>When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the gifts from them and deposited them in the house. Then he dismissed the men, and they left.



## 2 Kings 5:19-27

<sup>25</sup>Gehazi came and stood by his master. "Where did you go, Gehazi?" Elisha asked him.

He replied, "Your servant didn't go anywhere."

<sup>26</sup>"And my heart didn't go when the man got down from his chariot to meet you," Elisha said. "Is this a time to accept silver and clothing, olive orchards and vineyards, flocks and herds, and male and female slaves?"

**THE BAD**



# 2 Kings 5:19-27

<sup>27</sup>Therefore, Naaman's skin disease will cling to you and your descendants forever." So Gehazi went out from his presence diseased, resembling snow.



# The Downward Spiral

1. "thought" - Rationalization





# The Downward Spiral

1. "thought' - Rationalization
2. "as the Lord lives" - Unholy Oath



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6. "deposited them in the house." - Hid
7. "your servant did not go anywhere." - Lie Three
8. "Naaman's skin disease will cling to you..." - Consequences



# Greed

- Money





# Greed

- Money
- Possessions



# Greed

- Money
- Possessions
- Fame





# Greed

- Money
- Possessions
- Fame
- Pleasure

## Seeds of Greed

Envy: painful or resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by another joined with a desire to possess the same advantage



# Greed

- Money
- Possessions
- Fame
- Pleasure

## Seeds of Greed

Envy: painful or resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by another joined with a desire to possess the same advantage

Covetous: marked by inordinate desire for wealth or possessions or for another's possessions





# 1 Timothy 6:3-10

<sup>3</sup>If anyone teaches false doctrine and does not agree with the sound teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the teaching that promotes godliness, <sup>4</sup>he is conceited and understands nothing, but has an unhealthy interest in disputes and arguments over words. From these come envy, quarreling, slander, evil suspicions, <sup>5</sup>and constant disagreement among people whose minds are depraved and deprived of the truth, who imagine that godliness is a way to material gain.

**THE BAD**

# 1 Timothy 6:3-10

<sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out. <sup>8</sup>If we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup>But those who want to be rich fall into temptation, a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.







**THE BAD**



# How to "sion/tion" Greed:

- Guard Your Imagination





# How to "sion/tion" Greed:

- Guard Your Imagination
- Beware of Your Rationalization



# How to "sion/tion" Greed:

- Guard Your Imagination
- Beware of Your Rationalization
- Open Yourself Up to Inspection





# How to "sion/tion" Greed:

- Guard Your Imagination
- Beware of Your Rationalization
- Open Yourself Up to Inspection
- Your Antidote is Confession followed by...



# How to "tion" Greed:

- Guard Your Imagination
- Beware of Your Rationalization
- Open Yourself Up to Inspection
- Your Antidote is Confession followed by...
- Offer Your Immediate Submission





# Leviticus 13:9-14

<sup>9</sup>When a case of serious skin disease may have developed on a person, he is to be brought to the priest.  
<sup>10</sup>The priest will examine him. If there is a white swelling on the skin that has turned the hair white, and there is a patch of raw flesh in the swelling, <sup>11</sup>it is a chronic serious disease on the skin of his body, and the priest must pronounce him unclean. He need not quarantine him, for he is unclean.



# Leviticus 13:9-14

<sup>12</sup>But if the skin disease breaks out all over the skin so that it covers all the skin of the stricken person from his head to his feet so far as the priest can see, <sup>13</sup>the priest will look, and if the skin disease has covered his entire body, he is to pronounce the stricken person clean. Since he has turned totally white, he is clean. <sup>14</sup>But whenever raw flesh appears on him, he will be unclean.





# Redemptive Arc

- Sin



# Redemptive Arc

- Sin
- Forgiveness





# Redemptive Arc

- Sin
- Forgiveness
- Restoration



# Redemptive Arc

- Sin
- Forgiveness
- Restoration
- Consequences







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