

# Major Lessons From A Minor Character

II Kings 5:9-14

# Major O.T. Characters...

- Adam
- Eve
- Noah
- Abraham
- Sarah
- Melchizedek
- Isaac
- Rebekah
- Jacob
- Rachael
- Esau
- Joseph
- Job
- Moses
- Aaron
- Joshua
- Caleb
- The judges: Deborah, Gideon, Samson
- Eli
- Samuel
- Saul
- David
- Solomon
- Rehoboam
- Jeroboam
- Kings of the Divided Kingdom : Omri, Ahab, Hezekiah, Joash, Josiah, etc
- Prophets: Elijah, Elisha, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Jonah, Joel, etc
- Esther
- Gehazi

# Lessons...

- ***The necessity to follow and be influenced by good examples.***
  - Elisha was a godly, kind, obedient servant of God.
  - Gehazi had the opportunity to observe his life.
    - The widow's oil (II Ki. 4:1-7); The Shunammite woman (II Ki 4:8-37); Naaman (II Ki. 5:8-19)
    - We are to be good examples. (I Tim. 4:12)
    - Phil. 3:17 → Direct attention, watch good examples.
    - We have both good and bad examples around us...which do we choose?
  - Jesus is our ultimate example: (I Cor. 11:1)

# Lessons...

- ***The danger of covetousness.***

- Gehazi has material treasure first on his mind. (II Ki. 5:20)
- Much more to life than the material. (Matt. 6:19-20, 25; Lk. 12:15-21; Matt. 16:26)
- I Tim. 6:9-10 →
  - 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. 9 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. 10 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 pains. 11 But you, man of God, run from these things...
- The downward spiral of sin. One sin often leads to another.

# Lessons...

- ***Just saying all is well...does not mean that all is really well.*** (II Ki. 4:26; 5:21-22)
  - All was not well with Gehazi, even though he asserted that it was.
  - Just saying that “I’m saved”, “I’m right with God does not make it so”.
  - Have we obeyed the gospel? (Heb. 11:6; Jn. 8:24; Lk. 13:3; Rom. 10:9-10; I Pet. 3:21) Does what we’ve done match what the scriptures teach? (Rom. 8:16) How are we living? (Js. 1:22-25)
  - Is all well with us, or are there changes we need to make?

# Lessons...

- ***One sin often leads to another.*** (II Ki. 4:20-25)
  - Covetousness leads to lies and a lie to cover his sin.
  - David's downward spiral of sin. (II Sam. 11-12)
  - The downward slide of the Gentile world. (Rom. 1:18-32)
  - Satan wants us to believe that “just one sin” won't hurt anything. (II Cor. 2:11)
    - If we are guilty of covetousness, all is not well. (Col. 3:5; I Cor. 6:9-11)
    - If we are guilty of lying, all is not well. (Rev. 21:8; Prov. 6:16-19)

# Lessons...

- ***We can't successfully conceal our sins.*** (II Ki. 5:24-26)
  - Sacred history is replete with examples of the folly of trying to hide sins. (i.e. Adam and Eve; Moses; Achan; Annanias and Sapphira;
  - Gehazi feels safe and goes before Elisha.
  - Elisha knew...God knew...(Prov. 15:3; Num. 32:23; Heb. 4:13)
  - How to deal with sin.
    - If not a Christian → Obey the gospel
    - Erring Christian → Repent, confess, pray to God for forgiveness