

# Cured

II Kings 5:1-19

## 1. Intro

1. The mantle of prophet has just passed from Elijah to Elisha.
2. Elisha begins his role as a prophet of God.
3. We have a story that shows us what our human nature would like, but is a story on how God works, which may not match our expectations.

## 2. The Story

1. Naaman wants to be cured
  1. Is even willing to take a chance on some little girls word.(3)
  2. Has he tried to be cured before?
  3. King of Aram has great admiration for Naaman so he gives him the time to investigate this possibility. (5)
2. King of Israel (7)
  1. King thinks he is more than what he is. (Self-important)
    1. Am I God?
  2. Where is the king's faith? Israel is not following after God. (Baal worship)
  3. Was the king aware of a true prophet in his midst? (8)
    1. Did he have false ones?
3. Elisha (9-12)
  1. Was he rude or confident?
    1. Sent his servant to Naaman. (10)
  2. Naaman wants the dramatic. (11)
    1. What we have is better than what these people have (rivers)
      1. Cured by our own design.
    2. He wants to be treated as someone important
      1. He gets treated as a leper
    3. Whatever differences of culture or position, these are but surface and accidental.
      1. Beneath the surface is sin.
      2. God's message is the same for all of us.
  3. Elisha desired to conceal himself, and to make God's power prominent.
4. Gifts (13-15)
  1. Naaman acknowledges who God is
  2. He wants to pay for the cure.
  3. Elisha gives a free gift of God
5. Learning (17-18)

1. Naaman is in a learning process
  1. The dirt will mean nothing (17)
  2. He must choose to set himself apart from idolatry (18)
2. Elisha just dismisses him

### 3. Application

1. We want to be cured.
  1. From disappointment, finances, disease, life.
  2. We need to be cured from sin.
2. We want the dramatic.
  1. If we can find someone who can wave their hands and chant over us, and do their magic that is what we will seek out.
  2. We need to be pointed to the One who can do by a spoken word.
    1. We need to be obedient to that One.
3. We will pay and promise
  1. We cannot somehow accept a free gift we need to buy it.
  2. We will bring with us a token to remember what has been done for us.
  3. We need to accept the gift and then be obedient.

### 4. Conclusion

1. We have story about a little girl, a man, a prophet and God.
2. We have a story about how we would like to do things.
3. We have a story about how God does things.