

An aerial view of Prague, Czech Republic, at sunset. The Vltava River flows through the city, with the Charles Bridge in the foreground. The city is filled with historic buildings, including a prominent church with a green dome. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun.

**WELCOME**  
to the  
**International Baptist Church**  
of Prague

**SUNDAY 23 AUGUST 2020**

A scenic landscape featuring a range of snow-capped mountains in the background, a dense forest of evergreen trees in the middle ground, and a calm lake in the foreground that perfectly reflects the mountains and trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue. Overlaid on the center of the image is the word "SERMON" in large, bold, yellow capital letters.

# SERMON



# ELISHA

*the Miracle Prophet*

**2 Kings 5: “Elisha & Naaman”**

# Possible Types of Leprosy

- Psoriasis – a skin disease that causes red, itchy scaly patches, most commonly on the knees, elbows, trunk and scalp. **Psoriasis** is a common, long-term (chronic) disease with no cure. It tends to go through cycles, flaring for a few weeks or months, then subsiding for a while or going into remission.
- Leucideria – a congenital deficiency of skin pigmentation that results in white patches over the surface of the skin.
- Eczema – a condition wherein patches of skin become inflamed, itchy, cracked, and rough. Some types can also cause blisters.

## Possible Types of Leprosy

Hansen's Disease – an infection caused by slow-growing bacteria called *Mycobacterium leprae*. It can affect the nerves, skin, eyes, and lining of the nose (nasal mucosa). With early diagnosis and treatment, the **disease** can be cured.

# Naaman v. The Israelite Slave Girl

Aramean

Israelite

Great Man

Little Maiden

Commander of Armies

Captive Servant

Esteemed by the King

Unknown by the King

## Deuteronomy 32:39

“See now that I, even I, am He, and there is no god besides me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.”

# Why did Elisha not Meet Naaman?

- It's not about money.
- It's not about politics.
- It's about God.
- It's about faith.



## 2 Kings 5 “Elisha & Naaman”

It was not for nothing that Naaman of old, when suffering from leprosy, was purified upon his being baptized, but [it served] as an indication to us. For as we are lepers in sin, we are made clean, by means of the sacred water and the invocation of the Lord, from our old transgressions; being spiritually regenerated as new-born babes, even as the Lord has declared: “Except a man be born again through water and the Spirit, he shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

-- Irenaeus

## Genesis 12:1-3

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

## 2 Kings 5 “Elisha & Naaman”

1. A Confession of Faith

2. New Commitments

3. Seeking Forgiveness

# Naaman's Journey

Arrogance and Disbelief



Obedience and Submission

## 2 Kings 5 Naaman v. Us

Naaman had an incurable disease—leprosy.  
We are dead in sin.

Naaman's pride almost interfered with his one  
chance of being healed.

We must die to ourselves to come to Christ.

Naaman had to exhibit faith to do what made no  
sense to him—wash in a river—to be healed.

We must exhibit faith to do what makes no  
sense to the world—trust fully in Christ—to be  
saved.

## 2 Kings 5 Naaman v. Us

Naaman had to realize that God's gift of healing was absolutely free—he could not pay for it.

We must remember that God's gift of forgiveness is absolutely free—we can do nothing to earn it.

Naaman's gift of healing prompted him to reorient his life out of gratitude.

Our gift of salvation prompts us to reorient our lives out of gratitude.

## Ezekiel 36:22-23

“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. <sup>23</sup> And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.

## 1 Kings 8:41-43

“Likewise, when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a far country for your name's sake <sup>42</sup> (for they shall hear of your great name and your mighty hand, and of your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this house, <sup>43</sup> hear in heaven your dwelling place and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to you, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and that they may know that this house that I have built is called by your name.



## John 3:5, 16-17

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”



To  
God  
be the Glory!