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## SHIFT: DIVINITY & HUMANITY

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### 2 Kings 5

### DIVINITY VERSUS HUMANITY

<sup>1</sup>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.

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

<sup>4</sup>Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. <sup>5</sup>"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.

<sup>6</sup>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." <sup>7</sup>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!"

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<sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup>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."

<sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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.

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<sup>13</sup> 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'!" <sup>14</sup> 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.

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<sup>15</sup> Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant."

<sup>16</sup> The prophet answered, "As surely as the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing." And even though Naaman urged him, he refused.

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<sup>17</sup> "If you will not," said Naaman, "please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the Lord. <sup>19</sup> "Go in peace," Elisha said. After Naaman had traveled some distance, <sup>20</sup> Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, "My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him."

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<sup>26</sup> But Elisha said to him, "Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money or to accept clothes—or olive groves and vineyards, or flocks and herds, or male and female slaves? <sup>27</sup> Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and his skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

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### **WHERE ARE YOU AT TODAY?**

**Definition of LEPER:** a person who is avoided, rejected or shunned by others for moral or social reasons

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**Leviticus 13:45**

**DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU HAVE TO ANNOUNCE YOUR STRUGGLE?**

<sup>45</sup> And the leper's clothes shall be rent, and the hair of his head shall hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry, Unclean, unclean!

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**John 9:2-3**

**THE CAUSE ISN'T AS IMPORTANT AS THE CURE**

<sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

<sup>3</sup> "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

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**Luke 17:11-19**

**JESUS IS STOPPING BY THE VILLAGE TODAY TO HEAL US!**

<sup>11</sup> And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

<sup>12</sup> And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

<sup>13</sup> And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. <sup>14</sup> And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

<sup>15</sup> And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, <sup>16</sup> And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? <sup>18</sup> There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. <sup>19</sup> And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

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**IN CLOSING**

**2 Chronicles 7:14**

**WILL YOU GO IN THE DIRTY WATER TO GET CLEAN?**

<sup>14</sup> if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

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**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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