

BLUNDERS OF AN ARMY CAPTAIN

(II Kings 5:1-14)

- Introduction:
1. Many mistakes that were made in the past are still being made by people today who refuse to learn from history.
 2. Let us examine some events in the life of Naaman and determine if we are making some of the same mistakes he made.

I. He Went To The Wrong Man

- A. (II Kings 5:6).
- B. Though the king of Israel was a great and powerful man, he was not the proper source to approach for this problem.
- C. Today, men often appeal to the wrong source for their sin problem.
 1. Virgin Mary.
 2. Parents.
 3. Preachers.
- D. (Matthew 15:9) We must approach God for healing.

II. He Understood The Remedy

- A. (II Kings 5:10-14).
- B. The remedy for his leprosy was clearly stated in simple understandable terms.
- C. Could Christ have been clearer than what He stated (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)?

III. He Wanted To Substitute

- A. (II Kings 5:11-12).
- B. "*Behold I thought...*" has kept more than Naaman from much needed cleansing.
- C. We are in no position to be bargaining with the Lord about our salvation.
- D. Naaman wanted to dictate his own course.
- E. Men have always desired to legislate for God.

IV. He Thought The Service Was Too Simple

- A. (II Kings 5:13).
- B. God's wisdom is greater than ours.
 1. (Jeremiah 10:23).
 2. (Isaiah 55:8-9).
 3. (I Corinthians 1:19-21).
- C. Divine authority makes the simplest of commands of the greatest importance.

V. He Sought To Pay For His Cure

- A. (II Kings 5:15).
- B. We cannot pay for our redemption (Ephesians 2:8-9), but we can live to please our Redeemer (Ephesians 2:10).

- Conclusion:
1. How many of us are repeating the mistakes of Naaman?
 2. If we are, learn to take the Lord at His word, without question, and accept his remedy for sin, and glory in it.