

God's Lesson on Grace (2 Kings 5:1-27)

David Rountree

The Omnipotent Grace of God (v. 1-7)

1. The story of Naaman the leper.
2. Psa. 24:1, 2; Isa. 59:1; Rom. 10:13.

The Offensive Grace of God (v. 8-14)

1. Naaman's invitation from Elisha.
2. Naaman wants grace on his terms (cf. v.11, 1).
3. 1 Peter 5:5.

The Outrageous Grace of God (v.15-19)

1. Naaman's desire to worship (cf. Ex. 20:24).
2. Luke 4:24-27.
3. Would more people receive God's grace if the requirements were greater (v.13)?

The Obscured Grace of God (v.16, 20-27)

1. God's grace is a free gift (v.16).
2. Gehazi obscures and defiles the grace of God (v.20-27).
3. Consider Ephesians 2:7-9.
4. Do we ever pervert the grace of God? In what ways?

Concluding Applications

1. **Ceaseless Praise:** The fact that God has sovereignly dispensed his transforming grace on us for absolutely nothing from us should cause us to erupt in ceaseless praise for the kind of God he is. There is no one we have more reason to worship.

2. **Careless Pride:** If you or anyone you know has yet to be transformed and cleansed by the grace of God then ask yourself or them "What are you waiting for?" If God's grace is free, why would anyone wait to receive it. Sure it may be offensive in that it may feel funny getting something for nothing but that is the glory of our God. Even while we were sinners God sent his son Jesus Christ to die for our sins so that we could have his free grace. It would be foolish to live another moment without the comfort and assurance of the grace of God when it could be ours freely.

3. **Cautious Presentations:** We must be careful in presenting the grace of God to our children or to anyone else that we do not convey the notion that they must do certain things to earn our favor when God requires nothing of them to earn his favor. If God is willing to freely accept someone on the basis of what Christ has done alone then so should we.

4. **Calvinistic Principles:** The five points of Calvinism are more rightly referred to as the doctrines of grace. Each of them can be seen in the life of Naaman: 1) Naaman was without ability to receive God's grace on his own—Total Depravity, 2) God gave Naaman his grace based upon no condition in Naaman—Unconditional Election, 3) God's grace was not dispensed universally but his special grace only went to Naaman—Limited/Particular Atonement, 4) God provided messengers to see to it that Naaman did not resist God's grace—Irresistible Grace, and 5) God promised Naaman his peaceful presence to secure him in his grace for eternity—Perseverance of the Saints.