

GEHAZI

(Valley of vision or denier)

II Kings 4:12-36 - II Kings 5:20-27 - II Kings 8:4,5

Gehazi was Elisha's servant in the same manner that Elisha was Elijah's servant. Gehazi has been a witness to some amazing miracles that God has done through His prophet, Elisha. The widow's oil increased. The Shunammite woman's son's birth and resurrection were both miracles of God. Gehazi was present for the healing of Naaman's leprosy.

Naaman, in an attempt to express his gratitude for being healed, offered Elisha some gifts. Naaman's gifts, though great, were refused by Elisha. Gifts of silver, gold, and expensive clothing were turned down in the Lord's name.

Gehazi, Elisha's servant desired, or more appropriately, coveted these things and sought to get what Elisha turned away. Gehazi's greed resulted in the curse of leprosy on himself and his children to follow.

Some Lessons To Learn:

1. Gehazi forgot he was Elisha's servant.
 - A. A servant is to fulfill their master's desire
 - B. He put his desires over his master's desires
 - C. As a servant, we either add to or take away from our master's success.

We are to be servants of our Lord Jesus Christ and we either add to or take away from His ministry. (Mark 10:45) As servants, it is imperative that His will be done.

2. Greed is the enemy of ministry.
 - A. Gehazi's desires were the seeds of greed
 - B. Greed destroys the integrity of God's work
3. Greed is the host to other sins.
 - A. Rationalization of lusts
 - B. Lying
 - C. Theft
4. Greed has severe consequences.
 - A. The wages of sin is death
 - B. We reap what we sow
 - C. Others that follow suffer, too.

To be a good servant, we must be careful with our desires. Our desires can draw us away from fulfilling the master's will. To have desires aside from our master's will, will cause frustration that could easily foster a greed. We must be faithful servants of the Lord.