

**SCRIPTURE READING:** 2 Kings 5:15-16, 20-27.

**INTRODUCTION:** Immediately prior to our scripture reading, Elisha had just healed Naaman of his leprosy. Our text teaches us some important lessons about money, lessons we probably already know, but may not already be applying.

**APPLICATIONS:**

1. **Don't put money before God.**

A. Elisha denied himself financially to enrich himself spiritually. 2 Kings 5:16, 5. Why?

- 1) Genesis 14:21-23.
- 2) 2 Kings 5:26B.

B. Gehazi denied himself spiritually – he lied – in order to enrich himself financially. 2 Kings 5:21-22.

- 1) Gehazi rationalized himself. 2 Kings 5:20.
- 2) Gehazi tried to hide his sin, but was found out. 2 Kings 5:24-26A.
- 3) Was it worth it? Absolutely not. 2 Kings 5:27. Gehazi not only hurt himself, but he also hurt his family.

C. Elisha or Gehazi – which will it be? Matthew 6:24; 16:26.

2. **Manage money wisely.** 2 Kings 5:22-23, 5; Proverbs 22:7; Romans 13:7A, 8A.

3. **Give money generously in the service of God.**

A. Consider Naaman's attitude. 2 Kings 5:15, 16B, 23.

B. Is Naaman's attitude our attitude? 2 Corinthians 8:1-4, 7.

C. If it's not, we are hurting ourselves. 2 Corinthians 9:6; Luke 6:38; Psalms 37:25.

D. But, we're not just hurting ourselves. We are also robbing God. Malachi 3:8-12.

**CONCLUSION:** 1 Timothy 6:6-10. Brethren, let's all take these three lessons to heart.