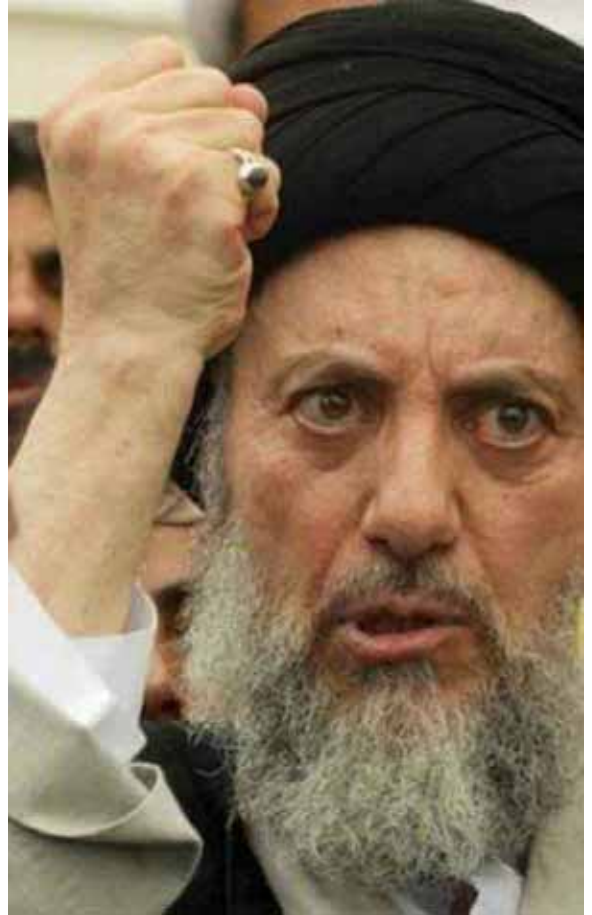


"But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, 'Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean?' So He Turned And Went Away In A Rage." 2 Kings 5:11-12 KJV



Naaman, second only to the King of Syria, presumed everyone was at his beck and call. He had little respect for the man of God, let alone God. He arrogantly assumed that Elijah would do as he desired, little realizing that as a leper and the commander of the army that had slaughtered and made slaves of many Hebrews, he was an abomination to every one of them. First, Naaman had to obey. Not something he normally did. It mattered little the river or the number of dips. Complete obedience was required. Leprosy left him after the 7th dip. Many TV "faith merchant" imply that God has to keep His Promises, but God's Word Says, *"Seek ye first The Kingdom of God and HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, and all these things shall be added unto you. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God and Him only shalt thou serve."* Satan's own are adept at skewing God's Word and adding lies to it. TV "faith merchants" can only dupe those who get their "truth" from "he said/she said" and not from their own diligent study and meditation. The man of God's responsibility is to God alone! His duty is to proclaim God's Word. Many have no idea the hours of labor needed. Sick must be visited, sometimes requiring hours of lonely driving. Arguments and bitterness must be handled, grief assuaged, and counsel given. Many pastors are the church janitor, maintenance department, and mechanic, because there are no men who will serve the Body of Christ! Yes, deacons, I'm talking to you! The Apostles appointed deacons for this reason. *"Then the twelve...said, 'It is not reason that we should leave the Word of God, and serve tables. Look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business."* It is the deacon's responsibility to do the physical work of the Assembly, not the Pastor! Hours are needed to seek God's Face! Sermons have to be studied, prayed over and prepared. It takes three hours a day just to read, meditate, and write this single page! It begins, sometimes as two pages, then reduced to one while retaining the day's message. It is only possible with my Guide and Tutor, the Holy Spirit. He Makes each day a new Joy!

In rage the wicked turn away,
God's Holy Word they'll not obey,
In humbleness they will not stay,
To find the True and Living Way. —CGP

Bricks of intellect and lust, with the mortar of pleasure separate man from Immortality! Foolish hearts would rather believe Satan's lies than Eternal Truth! God Says, *"Behold! Now, Is The Day of Salvation!"* Naaman's healing reveals God Is *"No Respector of persons."* No matter how vile, all who Humbly obey and plead will find God Meets their every need! Complete obedience brings complete healing.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and He Will Draw Nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in The Sight of the Lord, and He Shall Lift you up." James 4:7-10 KJV