

# Bible Class Notes – Studies in 1 and 2 Kings – Lesson 122

## Sin and its Cure

**This week** – God has provided a remedy for our sin. Go to the foot of the cross in repentance.

**Elisha sent a messenger, saying, “Go wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.”** *2 Kings 5v10*

### Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	2 Kings 5v1-19 (Naaman obeys Elisha and is healed)	
Monday	??1 Kings 22v34-38 (Go for Ahab comes true)	
Tuesday	??1 Kings 22v34-38 (Go for Ahab comes true)	
Wednesday	??2 Kings 9v30-37 (God’s Jezebel comes true)	
Thursday	Psalms 143 (O LORD, hear my prayer)	
Friday	Romans 6 (Christ died unto sin once, that we may live)	
Saturday	Revelation 5 (Christ washes us from our sins)	

**Important Thought for us Today:** Sin is like leprosy, deadly. It is breaking God’s Holy Law. Satan, the enemy of God, and of our soul, has beguiled the world to re-define ‘sin’, declaring ‘it is not bad’. People say, “In today’s ‘modern and enlightened age’ we must be allowed the freedom to do whatever we like”. Sometimes this is qualified by, “so long as no-one else suffers from our action”. But sins such as pride, selfishness, disobedience to parents, lying, cheating, stealing, coveting, unfaithfulness in marriage, lustful living and thinking, hating, murder, etc. - these all end in someone’s life and happiness being spoilt, as well as the terrible effect that it has on the one perpetrating the sinful act. **Sin also includes** unbelief in God, ignoring His teaching in The Bible, idol worship, man-made religion, insincere worship, taking God’s Name in vain, dishonouring The Lord’s Day, etc. God in His wisdom has given us The 10 Commandments (Exodus 20). We cannot keep these perfectly (however hard we try), and so they cannot save us. They are ‘God’s School Master’ to teach us what sin is. It is very foolish to say, “We have not sinned”. God in His love and mercy has provided a Saviour. We thank the Lord for sending His Son, Jesus Christ to seek and to save lost sinners - those who, in faith, repent and believingly seek to live in obedience to Him.

**A hymn of confession for our sin with the confidence of God’s merciful forgiveness: (379)**

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| <p>1. Lord, I confess to Thee<br/>                 Sadly my sin;<br/>                 All I have done and said,<br/>                 All I have been.<br/>                 Purge Thou my sin away,<br/>                 Wash Thou my soul this day,<br/>                 Lord, make me clean.</p> | <p>2. Faithful and kind art Thou<br/>                 Forgiving all;<br/>                 Low at Thy pierced feet<br/>                 Saviour, I fall.<br/>                 O, let the cleansing blood,<br/>                 Blood of the Lamb of God,<br/>                 Wash o’er my soul.</p> |
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## Sin – Suffering A Fatal Disease.

- Elisha had now taken over as God’s Prophet in Israel. Joram is king.
  - A Hideous and Fatal Disease – Leprosy. 2 Kings 5v1.
    - Naaman – The Syrian Army Chief had leprosy, a terrible life-threatening disease. It is highly contagious. He would soon lose his position, and be totally isolated.
- Leprosy is a picture of sin – spreading through us, leading to eternal spiritual death. One sin quickly leads to another. It needs to be checked early. Only God can help us.*
- An Urgent Search – Naaman knew the importance of finding a cure. v2-5
    - God’s Grace. An Israelite captive maid knew God’s Prophet in Samaria could help.
  - The Wrong ‘Doctor’ – They had not listened carefully. v6-7
    - The King of Syria immediately wrote a letter and sends Naaman to Samaria.
    - Joram, king of Israel - An ungodly king, he does not see a need to call in Elisha.
    - Joram is suspicious. ‘Does Syria seek war?’, ‘Am I God, to kill and to make alive’ v7

*Many spend time and effort trying to please God, expecting Him to recognise their goodness. Sadly, they are looking in the wrong place for a cure for their sin. We need Christ’s righteousness.*
  - Wounded Pride. Naaman, expecting a dramatic cure, is very annoyed. v10-12
    - Elisha sends a message by his servant, ‘Go, wash 7 times in Jordan, and be clean’.
    - Naaman was offended. Washing implied that he was dirty, unclean. Why 7 times?
    - Naaman proudly refuses – ‘Are not the rivers of Damascus far better.’

*Many are offended by the suggestion that they are sinners in God’s holy sight, so they invent their own solution, proudly rejecting God’s clear message of Salvation presented in the Bible. Even some churches remove the mention of sin and repentance, and so preach another ‘gospel’.*
  - Listening to Reason. Naaman’s servant persuades him to comply.
 

*Do you recognise God’s reasoned call of the Gospel? Have you been persuaded to look to Christ?*
  - A Wonderful Cure. Note the importance of full obedience. v14
    - Naaman humbly obeys and is fully cured, just as Elisha had said he would be.

*We must forget our pride and obey the Gospel call to believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died to save us (sins cure). This means sincere and heart-felt repentance for our sin. No withholding.*
  - Restored and Homeward Bound. v15-19
    - Naaman says. “Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel”.
    - He promises to be faithful to the One, True, God, His Creator and Lord.

*If you have come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour through repentance and faith, then you will demonstrate your allegiance to Him in obedient living, worship, and service. Behold, now is the Day of Salvation.*

*The Apostle John wrote, “Jesus Christ, Who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood ... to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”* The Lord Jesus Christ offers us the only cure for our sin. *Revelation 1 v 5-6.*