

# 2 Kings 5:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, as the LORD liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.

## Analysis

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**But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, as the LORD liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 5: God's grace extends to Gentiles; judgment on greed. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 5 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Naaman's Healing and Gehazi's

Greed) reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 5 regarding god's grace extends to gentiles; judgment on greed?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

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הִבְחַת	הִנֵּה	בְּאֱלֹהִים	הַנּוּ	אֶת	אָמָר
said	But Gehazi	the servant	of Elisha	the man	of God
H559	H1522	H5288	H477	H376	H430
hath spared	Behold my master	Adonai	Naaman	this Syrian	him and take
H2820	H113	H853	H5283	H761	H2088
at his hands	that which he brought	that which he brought	liveth	but as the LORD	Psalm
H3027	H853	H935	H2416	H3068	H3588
I will run	after	him and take	somewhat		
H7323	H310	H3947	H853	H3972	

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 4:12** (Parallel theme): And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunammite. And when he had called her, she stood before him.

**2 Kings 4:36** (Parallel theme): And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto him, he said, Take up thy son.

**2 Kings 4:31** (Parallel theme): And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor hearing. Wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awaked.

**2 Kings 6:31** (References God): Then he said, God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on him this day.

**Exodus 20:7** (References God): Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

**Titus 1:7** (References God): For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

**2 Timothy 4:10** (Parallel theme): For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

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