

THE COST OF GOING OFF

Robert Madu

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2 KINGS 5:1 – 4, 9 – 14 (NIV)

“Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

² Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman’s wife. ³ She said to her mistress, “If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.”

⁹ So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha’s house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, “Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.”

¹¹ But Naaman went away angry and said, “I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn’t I wash in them and be cleansed?” So he turned and went off in a rage.

¹³ Naaman’s servants went to him and said, “My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, ‘Wash and be cleansed!’” ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.”

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU GET MAD?

“People with understanding control their anger; a hot temper shows great foolishness.”
- Proverbs 14:29 (NLT)

“Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath.”
- Ephesians 4:26 (NKJV)

“Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man ...,highly regarded ... valiant soldier, but he has leprosy.” - 2 Kings 5:1

1) _____ DOESN'T STOP SUFFERING

The first thing we find out about Namaan is his status. His ranking. His position. His victories and his achievements. He has status!

We live in a society that is obsessed with status.

2) _____ ALWAYS START MIRACLES

The servant girl initiated the entire miracle. Be careful who you look down upon, because servants will always start miracles.

He is raging because of the gap between what he was experiencing and what he was expecting. I thought he would come out to me and wave his hand and call on the name of the Lord... other waters

He's angry because life has not turned out the way he expected. So he goes off!

Namaan's servant spoke up... the highly decorated soldier is rescued by his servants... servants always start miracles.

3) SIMPLE _____ IS STRENGTH

Sometimes we perceive obedience to God as some test designed just to see if we're really committed to Him.

But what if it's designed as God's way of giving us what's best for us?

發火的代價

羅伯特·馬杜

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列王紀下 5:1 - 4,9 - 14 (新譯本)

“亞蘭王的軍長乃縵在他的主人面前是一個大人物，很得王的賞識，因為耶和華曾藉他把勝利賜給亞蘭。這個人是個勇猛的戰士，可惜他是個麻風病人。

亞蘭人曾經出去結隊搶掠，從以色列地擄了一個小女孩，她就侍候乃縵的妻子。她對她的女主人說：「如果我的主人去見撒瑪利亞的先知就好了，他必定能治好他的麻瘋。」

於是乃縵去告訴他的主人說：「從以色列地擄回來的女孩子這樣這樣說。」

於是乃縵帶着他的車馬來到，停在以利沙的門前。以利沙差派一個使者去見他說：「你去在約旦河中沐浴七次，你的身體就會復原，得着潔淨。」

乃縵卻發怒走了，他說：「我以為他必會出來，站着求告耶和華他的神的名，向着患處搖手，潔淨這麻瘋病。大馬士革的亞罷拿河和法珥法河，不是比以色列一切河流更好嗎？我不是可以在那裏沐浴，得着潔淨嗎？」

於是他掉過頭來，氣忿忿地走了。他的僕人上前，對他說：「我父啊，先知如果吩咐你作一件大事，你不是照着行嗎？何況他只是說：『你去沐浴就得潔淨』呢？」於是下去，在約旦河裏浸了七趟，正如神人所吩咐的。他的肌肉就復原，好像小孩子的肌肉，他就得了潔淨。”

當你憤怒時會怎樣做？

“明白事理的，不輕易發怒；急躁易怒的，盡顯愚昧。” - 箴言 14:29 (新普及譯本)

“即使生氣，也不可犯罪，不可惱怒到日落。” - 以弗所書 4:26 (新漢語譯本)

“亞蘭王的軍長乃縵…是一個大人物，很得王的賞識…是個勇猛的戰士，可惜他是個麻風病人。” - 列王紀下 5:1 (新譯本)

1) 崇高的_____不能免卻苦難

我們首先發現乃縵有崇高的地位。他的軍階、他的地位、他得到的勝利和成就。他的地位崇高！

我們生活在一個崇尚地位的社會。

2) 奇蹟總是從_____開始

女僕人引進這個奇蹟。要留意你所輕看的人，因為奇蹟總是從僕人開始。

他勃然大怒，是因為他經歷到的和他期望得到的相差太遠：「我以為他必會出來，向着患處搖手，奉主的名…別的河流」。

他生氣，因為生命並不如他所願，所以他發火！

乃縵的僕人開口了…一個受到萬人景仰的戰士被他的僕人所救…奇蹟總是從僕人開始。

3) 單純的_____就是力量

有時候，我們視順服上帝為一些精心設計的考驗，為要看看我們是否真的對祂堅定不移。

但倘若這是上帝精心設計，來將最適合的東西賜給我們的方法，那又如何呢？