

# Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives Rediscovering Some Old Testament Characters

Naaman: The Officer Whose Leprosy Was Cleansed

2 KINGS 5:1-14



## The Heart of the Matter

Old Testament stories often revolve around its heroes of faith. The men and women who walked with God and trusted Him to get them through a challenging situation are usually at the heart of each interesting plot. In the story we are about to uncover from 2 Kings 5, that is not the case. The prominent person in this particular story was neither a preacher nor a prophet but an officer in the Syrian army. Though not strong in faith, the man was nevertheless greatly respected as a leader of troops and as a military warrior. One day all that was put on hold. None of his trophies seemed important any longer. His heroic war stories faded from conversation, and his presence in full-dress uniform was no longer high profile at parades and banquets. He was unclean . . . he had become a leper. This is a story about a man, who was once proud and self-sufficient, finally humbling himself before the only One who could cleanse his leprosy . . . and did.



## Discovering the Way

### 1. A Bit of History to Reconstruct the Setting

This story took place during a civil war in Israel and stars a prophet at odds with his culture.

### 2. The Story of a Miracle (2 Kings 5:1-14)

Get to know proud Naaman and his disease, an Israelite servant girl and her advice, Naaman's desperate search and its results, and the humble prophet and his cleansing of Naaman.

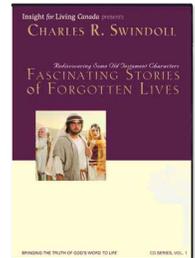


## Starting Your Journey

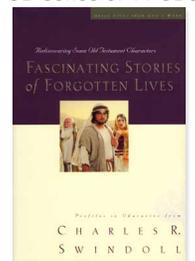
We can learn four lessons from Naaman's story. It's not until we accept the fact that we are diseased that we seek cleansing. It's not until we hear the truth that we discover the way to find relief. It's not until we come to the end of ourselves that we are ready to go God's way. And it's not until we actually *do* as God requires that our cleansing takes place.



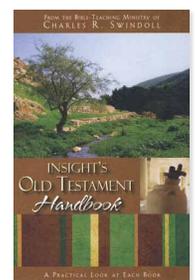
## Tools for Digging Deeper



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