**Gehazi the Liar**

2 Kings 5:19b-27

**Main Thought**  This story shows how Gehazi loses his ministry as his character flaws are revealed through lies.

**He Lied to Himself** (19b-20).

- While Namaan was generous, Gehazi was greedy. He coveted (Ex. 20:17) — the rich young ruler (Matt. 19:21-22) or soil that choked the word (Mk. 4:19).
- Gehazi had been decaying in his spiritual life by pushing away the woman whose son had died (4:27) and lacking the power to raise the son (4:31).
- The decay on the inside finally came to the outside (Prov. 4:23; Matt. 15:19).
- Gehazi was like the woman who criticized the woman who anointed Jesus with expensive perfume saying, “Why this waste . . .?” (Mk. 14:4).
- He would learn the hard way the deception of greed (Luke 12:15).
- Abraham (Gen. 14:23), Daniel (Dan. 5:17), Peter and John (Acts 8:20-21) all rejected gifts.
- He also used the Lord’s name in vain in swearing the oath (Ex. 20:7).

**He Lied to Naaman** (21-24).

- Gehazi also used Elisha’s name in vain and lied (Ex. 20:16).
- He “put on a mask to cover up greed” unlike Paul (2 Cor. 2:17; 1 Thess. 2:3-6).
- He hid the ill-gotten gain in his house like Achan (Josh. 7:11, 20-21).

**He Lied to Elisha** (25-27).

- He stood before Elisha to give an account like Adam and Eve before God (Gen. 3:9-10), Achan before Joshua, and sinners before God (Rom. 14:12).
- He failed to realize that everything is laid bare before God (Heb. 4:13).
- Elisha interrogated Gehazi like Peter interrogated Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:3-4).
- Perhaps Gehazi secretly hoped for even more from Namaan: olive groves, vineyards, flocks, herds, menservants and maidservants!
- Gehazi was a picture of people in the last days who will love money more than God (2 Tim. 3:1-2).
- Ironically, Gehazi’s punishment would be leprosy. What Namaan was cured from by humbling himself before God, Gehazi received for his deception (Gal. 6:6-8).
- To make it even worse, rather than leaving his family a legacy of godliness, he left them a legacy of leprosy (Ex. 20:5).
- Gehazi lost his ministry through the love of money (1 Tim. 3:3; 6:10).

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You can either be covered in leprosy WHITE AS SNOW (Ex. 4:6; Num. 12:10),
or be cleansed by the blood of the Lamb WHITE AS SNOW (Isa. 1:18).