

¹وَكَانَ نُعْمَانُ رَئِيسُ جَيْشِ مَلِكِ أَرَامَ رَجُلًا عَظِيمًا عِنْدَ سَيِّدِهِ مَرْفُوعُ الْوَجْهِ، لِأَنَّهُ عَنِ يَدِهِ أَعْطَى الرَّبُّ خَلَصًا لَأَرَامَ. وَكَانَ الرَّجُلُ جَبَّارَ بَاسٍ، أَتْرَصَ.² وَكَانَ الْأَرَامِيُّونَ قَدْ حَرَجُوا عَزَاهُ فَسَيَّوْا مِنْ أَرْضِ إِسْرَائِيلَ قَتَاةً صَغِيرَةً فَكَانَتْ بَيْنَ يَدَيِ امْرَأَةِ نُعْمَانَ.³ فَقَالَتْ لِمَوْلَاتِهَا، يَا لَيْتَ سَيِّدِي أَمَامَ النَّبِيِّ الَّذِي فِي السَّامِرَةِ، فَإِنَّهُ كَانَ يَشْفِيهِ مِنْ بَرَصِهِ.⁴ فَدَخَلَ وَأَخْبَرَ سَيِّدَهُ، كَذَا وَكَذَا قَالَتْ الْجَارِيَةُ الَّتِي مِنْ أَرْضِ إِسْرَائِيلَ.⁵ فَقَالَ مَلِكُ أَرَامَ، انْطَلِقِي ذَاهِبًا فَأَرْسِلِي كِتَابًا إِلَى مَلِكِ إِسْرَائِيلَ. فَذَهَبَتْ وَأَخَذَتْ بِيَدِهِ عَشْرَ وَرَنَاتٍ مِنَ الْفِصَّةِ، وَسِتَّةَ آلَافٍ شَاقِلٍ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ، وَعَشْرَ خُلَلٍ مِنَ النَّبَابِ.⁶ وَأَتَتْ بِالْكِتَابِ إِلَى مَلِكِ إِسْرَائِيلَ يَقُولُ فِيهِ، قَالَانِ عِنْدَ وُضُولِ هَذَا الْكِتَابِ إِلَيْكَ، هُوَذَا قَدْ أُرْسِلْتُ إِلَيْكَ نُعْمَانُ عَبْدِي فَاسْغِهِ مِنْ بَرَصِهِ.⁷ فَلَمَّا قَرَأَ مَلِكُ إِسْرَائِيلَ الْكِتَابَ مَرَّقَ ثِيَابَهُ وَقَالَ، هَلْ أَتَا اللَّهُ لِكَيْ أَمِيتَ وَأُحْيِيَ، حَتَّى إِنَّ هَذَا يُرْسِلُ إِلَيَّ أَنْ أَسْفِيَ رَجُلًا مِنْ بَرَصِهِ. فَأَعْلَمُوا وَانْظُرُوا أَنَّهُ إِنَّمَا يَتَعَرَّضُ لِي..⁸ وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ أَلِيشَعُ رَجُلُ اللَّهِ أَنَّ مَلِكَ إِسْرَائِيلَ قَدْ مَرَّقَ ثِيَابَهُ، أُرْسِلَ إِلَى الْمَلِكِ يَقُولُ، لِمَاذَا مَرَّقْتَ ثِيَابَكَ. لِيَأْتِ إِلَيَّ فَيَعْلَمَ أَنَّهُ يُوجَدُ نَبِيٌّ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ.⁹ فَجَاءَ نُعْمَانُ بِخَيْلِهِ وَمَرْكَبَاتِهِ وَوَقَفَ عِنْدَ بَابِ بَيْتِ أَلِيشَعِ.¹⁰ فَأَرْسَلَ إِلَيْهِ أَلِيشَعُ رُسُلًا يَقُولُ، اذْهَبْ وَاعْتَسِلْ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتٍ فِي الْأُرْدُنِّ فَيَرْجِعَ لِحُمُكَ إِلَيْكَ وَتَطْهَرُ.¹¹ فَغَضِبَ نُعْمَانُ وَمَضَى وَقَالَ، هُوَذَا قُلْتُ إِنَّهُ يَخْرُجُ إِلَيَّ وَيَقِفُ وَيَدْعُو بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ إِلَهِهِ وَيُرَدِّدُ بَدَهُ فَوْقَ الْمَوْضِعِ فَيَشْفِي الْأَتْرَصَ.¹² أَلَيْسَ أَبَاتُهُ وَقَرَّرَ تَهْرًا يَمْسُقُ أَحْسَنَ مِنْ جَمِيعِ مِيَاهِ إِسْرَائِيلَ. أَمَا كُنْتُ أَعْتَسِلُ بِهِمَا فَأَطْهَرُ. وَرَجَعَ وَمَضَى يَغِيظُ.¹³ فَتَقَدَّمَ عَبْدُهُ وَقَالُوا، يَا أَبَتَا، لَوْ قَالَ لَكَ النَّبِيُّ أَمْرًا عَظِيمًا أَمَا كُنْتَ تَعْمَلُهُ، فَكَمْ بِالْجَرِيِّ إِذْ قَالَ لَكَ، اذْهَبْ وَاعْتَسِلْ وَأَطْهَرُ..¹⁴ فَتَنَزَّلَ وَعَظَسَ فِي الْأُرْدُنِّ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتٍ حَسَبَ قَوْلِ رَجُلِ اللَّهِ، فَرَجَعَ لِحُمِهِ كَلْحَمِ صَبِيٍّ صَغِيرٍ وَطْهَرُ.¹⁵ فَرَجَعَ إِلَى رَجُلِ اللَّهِ هُوَ وَكُلُّ جَيْشِهِ وَدَخَلَ وَوَقَفَ أَمَامَهُ وَقَالَ، هُوَذَا قَدْ عَرَفْتُ أَنَّهُ لَيْسَ إِلَهٌ فِي كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ. وَالْآنَ فَخُذْ بَرَكَهَ مِنْ عَبْدِكَ.¹⁶ فَقَالَ، حَيُّ هُوَ الرَّبُّ الَّذِي أَبَا وَاقِفٌ أَمَامَهُ إِنِّي لَا أَخُذُ. وَأَلَحَّ عَلَيْهِ أَنْ يَأْخُذَ فَأَبَى.¹⁷ فَقَالَ نُعْمَانُ، أَمَا يُعْطَى لِعَبْدِكَ جُمْلَتَيْنِ مِنَ الثَّرَابِ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا يَقْرُبُ بَعْدُ عَبْدُكَ مُحَرَقَةً وَلَا ذَبِيحَةً لِأَلْهَةٍ أُخْرَى بَلْ لِلرَّبِّ.¹⁸ عَنْ هَذَا الْأَمْرِ يَصْفَحُ الرَّبُّ لِعَبْدِكَ،

¹Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper.² And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.³ And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.⁴ And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.⁵ And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.⁶ And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.⁷ And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.⁸ And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood

عِنْدَ دُحُولِ سَيِّدِي إِلَى بَيْتِ رَمُونَ لِيَسْجُدَ هُنَاكَ وَيَسْتَبْدَ عَلَى يَدَيَّ فَأَسْجُدُ فِي بَيْتِ رَمُونَ، فَعِنْدَ سُجُودِي فِي بَيْتِ رَمُونَ يَصْقُحُ الرَّبُّ لِعَبْدِكَ عَنْ هَذَا الْأَمْرِ.¹⁹ فَقَالَ لَهُ، امْضُ بِسَلَامٍ.²⁰ قَالَ جِيحْزِي غَلَامٌ أَلَيْسَعَ رَجُلٌ لِلَّهِ، هُوَذَا سَيِّدِي قَدْ أَمْتَعَ عَنْ أَنْ يَأْخُذَ مِنْ يَدِ نَعْمَانَ الْأَرَامِيِّ هَذَا مَا أَحْصَرَهُ. حَيْ هُوَ الرَّبُّ إِنِّي أَجْرِي وَرَاءَهُ وَأَحْذُ مِنْهُ شَيْئًا.²¹ فَسَارَ جِيحْزِي وَرَاءَ نَعْمَانَ. وَلَمَّا رَأَى نَعْمَانُ رَاكِضًا وَرَاءَهُ تَزَلَّ عَنِ الْمَرْكَبَةِ لِلِقَائِهِ وَقَالَ، أَسَلَامٌ.²² فَقَالَ، سَلَامٌ. إِنَّ سَيِّدِي قَدْ أَرْسَلَنِي قَائِلًا، هُوَذَا فِي هَذَا الْوَقْتِ قَدْ جَاءَ إِلَيَّ غَلَامَانِ مِنْ جَبَلِ أَفْرَايِمَ مِنْ بَنِي الْأَشْيَاءِ، فَأَعْطِيهِمَا وَرَثَةً وَفَصَّةً وَخُلْتِي نِيَابٍ.²³ فَقَالَ نَعْمَانُ، أَقْبِلْ وَخُذْ وَرَثَتِي. وَأَلَحَّ عَلَيْهِ وَصَرَّ وَرَثَتِي فَفَصَّةً فِي كَيْسَتَيْنِ وَخُلْتِي النَّيَابِ وَدَفَعَهَا لِعُغْلَامَيْهِ فَحَمَلَاهَا قُدَّامَهُ.²⁴ وَلَمَّا وَصَلَ إِلَى الْأَكْمَةِ أَخَذَهَا مِنْ أَيْدِيهِمَا وَأَوْدَعَهَا فِي الْبَيْتِ وَأَطْلَقَ الرَّجُلَيْنِ قَائِلًا.²⁵ وَأَمَّا هُوَ فَدَخَلَ وَوَقَفَ أَمَامَ سَيِّدِهِ. فَقَالَ لَهُ أَلَيْسَعَ، مِنْ أَيْنَ يَا جِيحْزِي. فَقَالَ، لَمْ يَذْهَبْ عَبْدُكَ إِلَى هُنَا أَوْ هُنَاكَ.²⁶ فَقَالَ لَهُ، أَلَمْ يَذْهَبْ قَلْبِي جِبْنَ رَجَعَ الرَّجُلُ مِنْ مَرْكَبَتِهِ لِلِقَائِكَ. أَهْوُ وَفْتُ لَأَحْذِيَ الْفَصَّةَ وَلَأَحْذِيَ نِيَابٍ وَرَيْثُونٍ وَكُرُومٍ وَعَنَمٍ وَبَقَرٍ وَعِيبٍ وَجَوَارٍ.²⁷ فَتَرَصُّ نَعْمَانُ بِلِصْقِ يَدَيْكَ وَيَسْأَلُكَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ. فَخَرَجَ مِنْ أَمَامِهِ أَبْرَصٌ كَالثَّلْجِ.

at the door of the house of Elisha.¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.¹¹ But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.¹³ And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?¹⁴ Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.¹⁵ And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant.¹⁶ But he said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it; but he refused.¹⁷ And Naaman said, Shall there not then, I pray thee, be given to thy servant two mules' burden of earth? for thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD.¹⁸ In this thing the LORD pardon thy servant, that when my

master goeth into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon: when I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon thy servant in this thing.¹⁹ And he said unto him, Go in peace. So he departed from him a little way.²⁰ 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.²¹ So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw him running after him, he lighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well?²² And he said, All is well. My master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments.²³ And Naaman said, Be content, take two talents. And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they bare them before him.²⁴ And when he came to the tower, he took them from their hand, and bestowed them in the house: and he let the men go, and they departed.²⁵ But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said unto him, Whence comest thou, Gehazi? And he said, Thy servant went no whither.²⁶ And he said unto him, Went not mine heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments,

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and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep,
and oxen, and menservants, and
maidservants?²⁷The leprosy therefore of
Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto
thy seed for ever. And he went out from
his presence a leper as white as snow.