WORDS IN RED

WHO IS LISTENING II

And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them were cleansed save Naaman the Syrian. Luke 4:27.

 “And many lepers were in Israel” but they were not listening to the Lord nor looking for his miracles. There was one in Syria who, at least and at last, listened to God’s instruction and found healing.

 Who, in Syria, would listen to a little maid who was only an Israelite slave especially in matters of health care? There was not a prophet in Syria, but God used this little maid to influence Naaman’s wife, who likely influenced Naaman, who in turn influenced the King of Syria. Would it not be great if we were listening so closely for God’s voice that we might hear Him speak through the young people of our churches in our country and the impact of their words ultimately reach the White House? The only thing that we lack is faith. God’s word is certainly powerful enough. The main question is “Do we believe enough?” The little maid had no doubt that if Naaman reached Elisha healing could come. Naaman’s wife believed enough to tell Naaman. Naaman trusted enough to tell the King of Syria. The king of Syria had enough faith to send a message to the King of Israel.

 The king of Israel had no faith. He thought this was a trap to pull him into war. Much like us he imagined this message meant most anything other than God being at work. He never believed and therefore missed out on the miracle and the joy that could have accompanied it. The Israelite King was not listening and thus missed a blessing. How many blessings are we missing everyday by not listening for and to God’s instruction?

 I hope we are listening and not like the King of Israel who instead of considering that God might be at work was instead expecting war. That may be why we see and hear of so much domestic violence, drive by shootings, and war. We are not expecting anything good from God anymore. God help us to turn our hearts, our eyes and our ears toward you?

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram