

# A Wretched Exchange

## Introduction:

- A. The setting: the miraculous healing of a man named Naaman (*2 Kings 5:1-14*)
- B. The major character: a man named Gehazi.
- C. The problem: greed (*2 Kings 5:15-27*)
- D. The definitions:
  - 1. *Wretched* – miserable, woeful, grievous, pitiful, deplorable
  - 2. *Exchange* – giving up a certain thing in order to obtain something else

## I. What exactly did Gehazi exchange?

- A. Fine physical health for a life of horrible disease
- B. A fine home for total abandonment and exclusion
- C. An honorable position with a man of God for the life of a beggar
- D. Association with the rest of society for an existence with outcasts
- E. Relative stability and security for a life of wandering
- F. The rewards and hope of a servant of God for hopelessness and despair
- G. Was this not a “wretched exchange”?

## II. What’s the point? That similar “wretched exchanges” continue to be made

- A. By young people...
- B. By men...
- C. By women...
- D. By parents...
- E. By Christians in general...

## Conclusion:

*Matthew 16:24-26*