

“Reversing Irreversible Consequences”

2 Kings 5:20-27

Introduction

God can reverse the irreversible consequences of sin when we meet His spiritual requirements. Consequences come when we covet. Gehazi, Elisha’s servant, wanted something that didn’t belong to him – the garments that Elisha turned down in the wake of Naaman’s healing. Gehazi used God’s name without accountability to God to get something that he wanted and that caused his consequence. He was deceived in his thinking that accountability to God didn’t matter.

The consequence given to Gehazi affected his legacy. Elisha told him in verse 27 that “the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and to your descendants”. Many children are experiencing consequences today because of the sins of their parents. The consequences Gehazi received doomed his hope for the future. He was told that his consequence would be his situation forever. He couldn’t even anticipate something improving. He was without hope.

The cure for your irreversible consequence starts with completing your disciplinary development. Although Gehazi received a life- long sentence, we later find that he is in the presence of the King (2 King 8:4) which implies that he was no longer a leper, since leprosy was unclean. Seven years would have passed between Gehazi’s affliction and his healing. God would have used that time of consequence in Gehazi’s life to bring him into submission resulting in his healing. Later we find that Gehazi not only passed the test of obedience to God but he made it his business to minister to other people because of a famine in the land. Gehazi later does receive a complete reversal of his circumstances. He is healed from leprosy and ends up back in the King’s palace serving again. The cure for irreversible consequences comes when we stay the course, pass the tests that God sends our way and also minister to the needs of others.

Getting Started

1. What irreversible consequences are you now facing?
2. What resonated with you most from this week’s message?

Let’s Get Personal

1. What cure do you need to implement to see God reverse your consequences?
2. Even when things look irreversible or hopeless, there is still hope for God’s intervention. What are you hoping God will do in order to reverse seemingly irreversible consequences in your life?
3. The Bible is full of many stories of great reversals. What other examples from the Bible illustrate God’s reversal and how does this help you as you look at your life right now?

Take the Next Step

1. Whenever there is a time you are going through discipline for sin, use that as a time for development rather than a time for whining or complaining. How do you think God wants you to grow in this season so that you are positioned for His miraculous change and intervention?
2. The first step towards reversing consequences is always repentance. Is there a sin of which you need to repent? Spend time either individually or corporately confessing areas of known sin to God.
3. Want to go deeper? Take time to review these Scriptures: Luke 12:13-21; Hebrews 12:4-11; 2 Kings 4:25-37; 8:1-6; 7:1-20; 6:25-29; Leviticus 13:45-4.

Renew Your Mind

“All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful;

yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.” Hebrews 12:11
