

Some quotations from the theological writings of Emanuel Swedenborg:

“Naaman a leper of Syria” represented and signified those who falsify the knowledges of truth and good from the word, for “Leprosy” signifies falsifications, and “Syria” the knowledges of truth and good. “The waters of Jordan” signified the truths that introduce into the church, which are the knowledges of truth and good from the word, for the river Jordan was the first boundary across which the Land of Canaan was entered, and “the land of Canaan” signified the church; this is why “the waters of Jordan” signified introductory truths, which are the first knowledges of truth and good from the word. Because of this signification of “the waters of Jordan” Naaman was commanded to wash himself in them seven times, which signified purification from falsified truths, “seven times” signified fully, and is predicated of things holy, such as truths divine are. Because “Seven Times” has this signification, it is said that “his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little lad,” the flesh coming again signifying spiritual life, such as those have who are regenerated through divine truths.

Apocalypse Explained # 47518

...”Disease” denotes evil... because in the internal sense are signified such things as affect the spiritual life. The diseases which affect this life are evils... Faith and charity make the spiritual life. This life sickens when falsity takes the place of truth which is of faith, and evil takes the place of the good which is of charity; for these bring this life unto...spiritual death... as disease bring the natural life unto death.

Arccana Celestia # 8364.2

As diseases represented the hurtful and evil things of the spiritual life, therefore by the diseases which the Lord healed is signified liberation from various kinds of evil and falsity which infested the church and the human race, and which would have led to spiritual death. For Divine miracles are distinguished from other miracles by the fact that they involve and have regard to states of the church and of the heavenly kingdom. Therefore the Lord's miracles consisted chiefly in the healing of diseases. This is meant by the Lord's words to the disciples sent by John: Tell John the things which ye hear and see: the blind see, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead rise again, and the poor hear the gospel (Matt. 11:4, 5).

Arccana Celestia, 8364.6

Deliverance from evils and falsities is signified by, “I will bring to [them] health and cure, and I will heal them.” (Jer. 33:6); for to be spiritually healed is to be delivered from evils and falsities; and as this is done by the Lord through truths, it is said, “I will reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth.”

Apocalypse Explained # 365.32

With a person who is in internals... the ruling affection is that the body may be nourished ... for the sake of its health, to the end that there may be a healthy mind in a healthy body; thus principally for the sake of the health of the mind, to which the health of the body serves as a means. One who is a spiritual person does not rest here, but regards the health of the mind or soul as a means to imbue intelligence and wisdom.

Arcana Celestia #4459.6

SUNDAY MORNING FORUM
BIBLE STUDY & SWEDENBORGIAN IDEAS
PENTECOST 20: Spiritual Well-Being –Ten Lepers Cleansed

Spiritual well-being has its origin in enlightenment by the Lord. The Lord sends light from his Divine Wisdom and warmth from his Divine Love, which we receive as life. The more accurate and faithful our reception, the greater will be our spiritual health and well being.

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Naaman, commander of the army of the King of Syria, ...was a mighty man of valor, but he had leprosy. Now the Syrians... had carried off a little maid...[who] waited on Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "Would that my Lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! The prophet would cure Naaman of leprosy." So Naaman went in and told his Lord [what the maid had said]. And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."

So Naaman came with horses and chariots, and halted at the door of Elisha's house. And Elisha sent a messenger... saying, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." Naaman went away angry and said, "Behold, I thought Elisha would surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure [me]." But his servants... said..., "My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it?" So Naaman went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan... and he was clean.

2 Kings 5 (portions)

Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the remainder of the elders who were carried away captive.... Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit. Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters--that you may be increased there, and not diminished. And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace.

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Now it happened as Jesus went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

Luke 17:11-19