

case, it is fair to infer that they were of the white type. Gehazi went forth from the prophet "as white as snow"; and it is stated that the leprosy of Naaman would cleave unto him. It is altogether likely that Naaman's was white also. In the cases of Naaman and Gehazi they were not declared unclean. It would appear therefore that their disease was not a parasitic skin disease with scales and crusts, nor the dreaded tubercular leprosy with yellow spots. They might have been cases of psoriasis, with silvery scales; but, more likely, vitiligo, which is white, non-contagious, and does not injure the general health. Naaman and Gehazi continued to live active lives, which militates against the view that their disease was true leprosy.

In Uzziah's case, 2 Chr., xxvi., 19-21, another case of leprosy is recorded. No mention is made of the fact that it was white. Note this carefully. He was declared unclean; and dwelt by himself. It began too on the forehead, a usual place for the severe leprosy to commence. He did not recover, another feature of the true disease.

Four cases of the unclean type are mentioned in 2 Kings, vii.

In the New Testament some cases are given. In St. Luke, xvii., ten lepers are spoken of. No doubt they were unclean. They stood afar off. Then there is the case of the leper, spoken of in three of the gospels. St. Luke says he was full of leprosy, which means that his case was a bad one. Simon, the leper, is the remaining case. The indications are that this was a case of the clean type, either universal psoriasis, or vitiligo patches over the body.

Is true leprosy contagious? The weight of evidence, both of experience and science, seems to point to the affirmative. It has been very prevalent in many countries. Large communities have been afflicted. It is endemic. It is found in some parts of the world yet plentifully. Good sanitary regulations have removed it from places where it once abounded. The stringent regulations of the Mosaic dispensation are strong proofs of the Divine origin of the Bible. It is a state of pathology far in advance of the times.

Here I wish to make a few remarks on Job's disease. There are theories that it was the guinea-worm disease, or