

Jesus Heals the Royal Official's Son

John 4:43-54

Intro: Jesus returns to Cana of Galilee and performs His second miracle in restoring the royal official's son. He demonstrates that **He is the Lord of life**, who **gives life** to anyone who **believes in His name**: same theme as with Nicodemus, and the Samaritan woman.

I. Jesus' Welcome in Cana of Galilee 4:43-45

- A. Rejection is centered in Jerusalem—
- B. *Reception is centered in Galilee—*

II. Jesus' Work from Cana of Galilee 4:46-54

- A. The request of the royal official (vv. 46-47)
- B. The rebuke of Jesus (v. 48)
- C. The response of the royal official (vv. 49-50)
official's son

- 1. The persistence of the man (v. 49)
- 2. The promise to the man (v. 50a)
- 3. The personal faith of the man (v. 50b)

D. The reactions to the boy's healing (vv. 51-54)

- 1. The report of the boy's healing (v. 51)
- 2. The response to the boy's healing (vv. 52-53)
 - a. The royal official and his whole household believed
 - b. The people are moving from wonder to worship



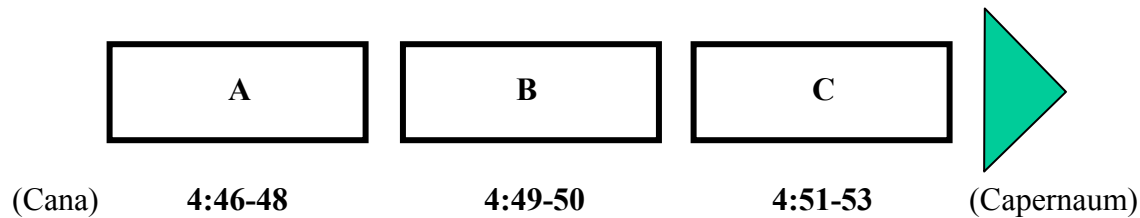
Jesus heals the royal

III. Interpretation

- A. This is the second **Sign** that Jesus performed. It is a **Sign** of His Messiahship, demonstrating His deity. The purpose of the miracle in its context was **to bring forth faith in His word**. Faith is trust in God's words and purposes. The man believed Jesus' word. **There is a stress on faith in God's word, and on life being given as a result—Jesus said, "Go your way; your son lives" (v. 50).**
- B. This miracle also shows us: that Jesus does NOT have to be physically present for people to believe His words and receive the gift of eternal life. This is important because Jesus is going to go away. He shows that distance is NOT a barrier to His meeting our needs? **He hears and responds to our prayers.** John was foreshadowing the concluding confession

of Thomas, and Jesus' response "Blessed are they who believe in Me without seeing" (John 20:29).

IV. Progress of the Royal Official's Faith (*just like Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman*)



- A. Faith in the *Power* of Jesus 4:46-48
- B. Faith in the *Promise* of Jesus 4:49-50
- C. Faith in the *Person* of Jesus 4:51-53

V. Applications

1. **Jesus is not just the Creator of life**—the first miracle of creating wine; **He is also the Restorer of life**—the second miracle of restoring the royal official's son to life (vv. 50, 51, 53).
2. Position does not exempt one from suffering, be it a royal official, pastor, or believer.
3. It is faith in the Word of Christ which leads to eternal life—Rom 10:17—“*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*”
4. Affliction may bring blessing in disguise = salvation of family. What brought the contact with Jesus? **Sickness**. What was the result? **Salvation**. God may use human tragedy to lead people to Himself as the only answer both for physical and spiritual life.
5. Sometimes God works in the immaturity of our faith to bring us to more complete faith. Maybe it is not complete—saving faith. Another example is Cornelius who was a God-fearer. He had faith, but he didn't have saving faith in the person of Jesus, until after Peter spoke the word to him and he was saved (Acts 10:23-48).
6. Faith in God's word is preferred over faith in God's wonders. **God very rarely does miracles**. We've already discussed how the miracles have only occurred in special times in history, but His word is always around. Trusting in the word of Christ is the key. Throughout the ages people have continually tried to stress the miracles and perform miracles thinking that people need to “SEE” a miracle in order to believe. **But this man believed the word of Jesus and was saved.**
7. Miracle dependent faith is condemned by Jesus as shallow and always in danger of expiring. It usually places the focus on the miracle worker, rather than on the Savior. Jesus said, “*An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet*” (Matthew 12:39; 16:4).

8. Distance is no barrier to the working power and purposes of God.