

John 4:43-54

The Second Sign

Healing the Royal Official's Son

Verses 44-45

Even though the Galileans receive Jesus when He arrives, the reception is different from the Samaritans.

They received Him because of the miracles He had done, not because they honored Him as a prophet.

John is contrasting the unbelief of the Jews with the belief of the Samaritans. He is also setting the stage for the conflict with the Jews that is about to begin.

Verse 46

At Capernaum – Approximately 20 miles away.

Verse 47

Come down and heal his son – The nobleman believed Jesus could heal his son but he thought:

1. Jesus had to go to Capernaum.
2. If the boy died, it was too late.

Verse 49

Sir, come down before my child dies.

The nobleman was not concerned with a sign but desperately wanted his son to be healed.

Verse 50

Go your way; your son lives.

Jesus did not do what the nobleman requested but gave him a promise instead.

The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him – He exercised faith apart from proof and became a model of what it means to believe apart from signs.

Note John 20:29, *Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.*

Verses 51-53

The seventh hour – 1:00 p.m.

He knew that his son had recovered at the exact time that Jesus gave the promise. He learned that Jesus' word is powerful to save even at a distance.

And he himself believed, and his whole household.

His faith went from...

Crisis to confident to confirmed to contagious!

Verse 54

Chapter 4 ends the period of Jesus' early ministry. Both of the signs that bookmark this section were not public. The next sign will be public and the result will be the beginning of persecution by the Jews.