

## Episode #1-21 - The Nobleman's Son

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. The miracles John presents to us he considers as signs pointing to the great premise of his book: that we believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Now we examine the second of these signs and the lessons it teaches us.

III. John 4:43-54. The nobleman's son: the second sign.

- A. Verse 43. After two days with the Samaritans. Also seventh sign (John 11:6). Proves that He is the Christ by His power to heal, Isaiah 53:4.
- B. Verse 44. Jesus' witness. Contrast with Samaritans' faith!
- C. Verse 45. Their lack of faith wasn't because they didn't see miracles.
- D. Verse 46. A royal officer, perhaps Herod's court? Same city as first sign.
- E. Verse 47. Places his hope in the Lord. Rushes to Cana, asks Him to come to Capernaum.
- F. Verse 48. Did this man doubt the Lord's ability?
- G. Verse 49. His concern about his son causes him to discount the Lord's rebuke. Doesn't seem to consider that the Lord can act at a distance.
- H. Verse 50. Lord says, "Go about your business." The man does it! Hard to do with his concern about his son. But he believed without seeing the wonder!
- I. Verse 51. Completes his business and is returning. Anxious servants report.
- J. Verse 52. He recovered at 1:00PM the previous day, the time the Lord spoke.
- K. Verse 53. The man believes, and his family. Question: do the readers believe?
- L. Verse 54. The second sign. Reminding us again that we are to count them. Not miracle but sign, pointing to their purpose in the book of John.

IV. Conclusion. The royal officer let desperate circumstances distract him from seeking truth. Do we? He was willing to obey, against his inclination. Will we? The nobleman learned an important truth: that the Lord can heal at a distance, and does not need to be present to heal. Can we learn the same truth: that the Lord can do as much at a distance as if He were present? Or do we think He has to come back before He can do anything? The Lord can do much even now. If you believe, He can change your life!