



INTRODUCTION

Read and discuss John 4:43-54 NASB <http://bible.com/100/jhn.4.46-54.nasb>

WHO IS THIS JESUS?

The miracle or sign we are considering here is chosen very strategically by the Apostle John to show us the most profound insights into the Saviour he loved above all others.

In context, it shows how Jesus interacts as a Leader, Prophet, Saviour, Healer and Messiah.....

KEYPOINT

PROPER BELIEF BRINGS US ALL FREEDOM TO TRUST EVEN IN DIFFICULT TIMES THAT GOD IS PRESENT EVERYWHERE - LET'S NOT FORGET THAT GOD IS BIG AND HE IS ON TIME
BACKGROUND

Merril Tenney describes the whole passage beautifully:

"The ability of Jesus to perform supernatural deeds was no academic question to the nobleman; it meant the difference between life and death for his son. He demanded action, not inquiry into the genuineness of his motives. The brief answer of Jesus, "Go your way; your son lives", put the man in a dilemma. If he took Jesus at His word, he did so with no assurance beyond that word that Jesus would do anything for him. If he refused to take Jesus at His word, he would insult the very man upon whom all his hopes depended, and so forfeit whatever benefits He might confer."

- John, the Gospel of Belief: Merrill Tenney

1. FAITH BUILDS FAITH...ITS A JOURNEY OF BELIEF AND LIFELONG TRUST

What significance did Jesus previous Sign of Turning Water into Wine have for the faith of the people of that region - Read and discuss verses 4:43-46

2. JESUS TEACHES US TO BELIEVE IN WHO HE IS, NOT JUST WHAT HE DOES

So Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe."

The royal official said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Merrill Tenney states: "Jesus was weary of being solicited for an exhibition of His powers, and His brusque reply was a protest against the popular feeling concerning Him. "Except you people see signs and wonders, you will in not believe". He did not want to be regarded only as a worker of miracles or marvels while the message of His person was rejected. The... nobleman revealed that he was no trifler. The language is heartfelt and emphatic: "Sir, come down ere my child die".- John; the Gospel of Belief

NOW PLEASE NOTE THIS CONTRAST WITH THE GREAT FAITH OF THE CENTURION

Read and discuss Matthew 8:5-10 NASB. <https://www.bible.com/100/mat.8.5-10.nasb> .

KEYPOINT

Consider and discuss this statement : "Both Jesus and his Father are looking for faith from people...this is why Jesus is so inspired by the faith of the Centurion and so frustrated at times by the lack of Trust from the people of God."

Discuss also this quote: "Those whom Christ intends to honour with his favours he first humbles with his frowns. The Comforter shall first convince!" - Matthew Henry

3. JESUS IS LORD OF TIME AND SPACE - THE PROVIDER OF A BOLD HOPE

HE ONLY HAS TO SPEAK AND WHAT HE COMMANDS IS DONE

CONCLUSION :

Who is Jesus really?

He is more than a Teacher- More than a Prophet-More than a Rabbi-More than a Good man
More than a political leader- More than a religious Guru

He is:

The 2nd Person of the Trinity- Creator of the Universe- The Word of God- Lord- Saviour
Redeemer- Ransom- The Last Adam- The Son of the Most High God.