

Remnant Life Church

August 20, 2017

John

The Third Sign: The Healing of the Official's Son

John 4:43-54

- First sign – turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-12)
- The second sign – clearing the temple (John 2:13-25)
- The third sign – the healing of the official's son

- **READ** – John 4:43-54

- The third sign follows in John's account 2 very important encounters
 - The conversation with Nicodemus
 - The Samaritan woman at the well
 - Both of these demonstrate not only the presentation of the need for spiritual rebirth and the truth of Jesus mission as an evangelist sent by His Father, but His love for all people regardless of their background
 - Between the two John places the testimony of J the B
 - This account is often confused with the healing of the Roman Centurion's servant (Matt 8:5-13; Luke 7:2-10)

- The Setting
 - Jesus has left the wedding in Cana, traveled through Samaria, and has now come back to Cana in Galilee
 - He is welcomed but...
 - Not because they want to hear Him teach about His Father's love for them
 - Because they want to see miracles done (4:48)
 - CAUTION against chasing after the signs of God rather than God Himself
 - The man who came to Jesus was a "royal official" (4:46, 49)
 - Original language – Bah-silly-KAHS
 - One who served in the king's court
 - That king would have been Herod
 - He could have been a Gentile or a Jew
 - Either way the Jews would have hated him because of who he associated with
 - Jesus again demonstrated His love for everyone
 - He would have been a man of wealth and power
 - Problems of life are no respecter of persons
 - Neither is God's love!

- The man comes to Jesus
 - In great humility as his son is not with him but in Capernaum
 - *Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.* (4:44)

- Jesus responds in a way that seems like a rebuke
 - *“Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him, “you will never believe.” (4:48)*
 - They wanted to see if this man who they had known as the son of Mary and Joseph could possibly be the awaited the Messiah
 - Jesus answered their question but none of them would see it
- “Sir” – CORE-ee-ahse
 - The way in which a servant addresses his master
 - Deep respect and reverence
 - The title given to one who decides and has power over another
- There is a tone of desperation
 - He would have not of known Jesus prior
 - He had a great need and believed Jesus could help him
- His faith is what saved his son
 - Jesus could have gone with him and performed the miracle everyone wanted to see
 - Instead He rewarded the man’s faith without playing to the crowd
- What the man does is very profound but it is easy to miss
 - *“Go,” Jesus replied, “your son will live. “The man took Jesus at his word and departed. (4:50)*
 - He did not insist that Jesus come with him
 - Wanting it done our way
 - He did not question Jesus further
 - Absolute faith is without questions or a need for further clarification
 - This man obviously had heart of Jesus but most likely not in a positive way
 - The man he served had tried to have Jesus killed as an infant
- What was the result?
 - His son lived
 - His entire family was saved
- **READ – Matthew 8:5-13**
- What do we see in these 2 situations that we can apply today?
 1. Both came to Jesus with a need
 - a. *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matt 11:28)*
 - b. He should be the first place we go not after we have exhausted all of our own resources
 2. Both came in great humility even though their positions did not require it
 - a. *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:10)*
 - b. ‘Lift’ is Hoop-SAW-oh – to exalt or bless (blessing in many forms)
 3. In neither instance did they require proof to have faith
 - a. *Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see, (Heb 11:1)*

b. One of the greatest killers of our faith is one small, simple word –
BUT

- Check what you are believing God for this morning against these 3 aspects of this third sign from Jesus
 - Are you trusting Jesus first?
 - Are you coming humbly recognizing your need and His greatness?
 - Is your faith in Him strong enough to ignore the “buts?”