

Your Father Cares

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(Big Church)

June 19, 2022

John 4:45–54

Then when he was come into Galilee [when Jesus arrived in Galilee], the Galileans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the [Passover] feast: for they also went unto the feast. ⁴⁶ So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman [usual meaning: the relative of a king], whose son was sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought [begged] him that he would come down [that Jesus would go to his home with him] and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸ Then said Jesus unto him, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe." ⁴⁹ The nobleman saith unto him, "Sir, come down ere my child die." ⁵⁰ Jesus saith unto him, "Go thy way; thy son liveth." And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. ⁵¹ And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, "Thy son liveth." ⁵² Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." ⁵³ So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, "Thy son liveth:" and himself believed, and his whole house. ⁵⁴ This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judea into Galilee.

Introduction: Jesus had been in Jerusalem for the Passover feast. While He was there He did many signs, such as miracles, casting our demons, healing sick or disabled people, etc., read John 2:23. Many people from Galilee were in Jerusalem at that time to witness Jesus' works. Jesus stopped in Samaria for two days on His way to Galilee, read John 4:43.

- I. Your Father Cares ...**When You Are Burdened** (verses 46-49)
 - A. The Father Pursues Jesus (verse 47. Note that Cana and Capernaum are about 16.5 miles apart.)
 - B. The Father Pleads With Jesus (verse 47, The man must have thought that Jesus would need to physically touch his son for the boy to be healed.)

Psalm 4:1 KJV

Hear me when I call [pray], O God of my righteousness:

Thou hast enlarged me [You have given me relief] when I was in distress;

Have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.

Psalm 61:1-3 KJV

Hear my cry, O God;

Attend unto my prayer.

² *From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee,*

When my heart is overwhelmed: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

³ *For thou hast been a shelter for me,*

and a strong tower from the enemy.

II. Your Father Cares ...**When You Are Weak** (verse 50)

A. Jesus Tests the Nobleman : Jesus did not go with the man as he had requested, but Jesus did heal his son. The man could not have known his son was immediately healed from so far away, but his faith in Jesus' power to heal gave him confidence to trust Jesus without Him actually being in the presence of his son.

B. The Nobleman Trusts Jesus' Word

1 Peter 3:12 KJV

For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous,

And his ears are open unto their prayers:

But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

III. Your Father Cares ...**When You Believe** (verse 53)

A. A Transformed Father (verse 47)

Matthew 12:37-40 KJV (verse 38 is similar to John 4:48)

[Context: Jesus speaking to the Pharisees after healing a demon-possessed man]

*"For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."*³⁸
*Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, "Master, we would see a sign from thee [we would like to see you do a miracle]."*³⁹ *But he answered and said unto them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas [Jonah]:⁴⁰ for as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."*

B. A Transformed Family (verse 47) The power that Jesus displayed, not hindered by either the sickness nor by distance from the patient, was enough for this whole family to know that Jesus was greater than any other healer.

Conclusion

5 Lessons from the Nobleman

1. Sickness or deep affliction is often the means of great good

Romans 8:28

And we [Christians] know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. A wise father seeks Jesus' help

Psalm 118:5

I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, and set me in a large place [and set me free from my confinement].

3. A wise father trusts God's Word

Proverbs 1:1-2

The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

²To know wisdom and instruction;

to perceive the words of understanding;

4. A wise father blesses his children

Proverbs 13:2

A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth [by choosing his words wisely]:

but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

5. Father's must lead the way in meeting a child's need

Ephesians 6:4

And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath [fathers, do not torment your children until they are angry]: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition [discipline and instruction] of the Lord.