

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

07/10/2022

## The Word Heals

## John 4:46 – 54

## Section Review

Partners in a New Creation

The Word: The Agent of Creation

- **7/3 – John 1:1-14**

John introduces Jesus as God and the LOGOS – the creator of all things physical and gives meaning to the life of human beings

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# Background

- Jesus was born in Nazareth, but came to the region of Galilee to begin his ministry but also made his way through several cities, encountering several people along the way each one confirming Him as the Messiah:
- John the Baptist at the Sea of Galilee (**John 1:6-26**)
- His first Disciples on his way to Cana (**John 1:35-51**)
  - In Cana in Galilee where he performed His first miracle, turning water into wine (**John 2**)
- Nicodemus the Pharisee in Jerusalem (**John 3:1-21**)
- Samaritan Woman at the well in Sychar in Samaria (**John 4:5-26**)
- In today's lesson we meet His 4<sup>th</sup> encounter

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# Lesson Text

A Nobleman's Son Healed

## JOHN 4:46 – 47 (NKJV)

<sup>46</sup> So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain [b]nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.



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# Commentary: Seeking in Faith

- A common theme with many Jesus encounters was that people would go to great lengths to meet him. Such acts of faith are consistently rewarded:
- Roman Centurion Soldier ([Matthew 8:5-13](#))
- Canaanite Woman pleading for her daughter ([Matthew 15:21-28](#))
- Companions of a paralytic who lower him through the roof of a house ([Luke 5:17-39](#))
- Woman with the issue of blood ([Luke 8:43-48](#))
- Jesus cleanses 10 Lepers ([Luke 17:11-19](#))

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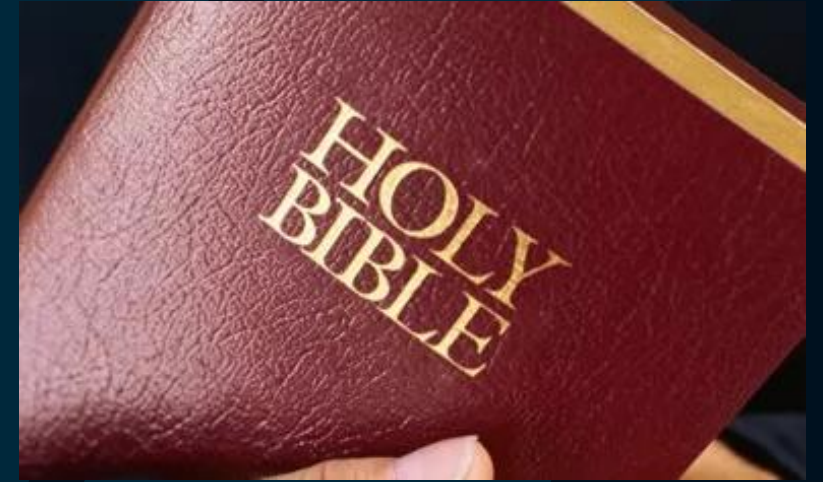
# Lesson Text

A Nobleman's Son Healed

## JOHN 4:48 – 50 (NKJV)

<sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe."

<sup>49</sup> The nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your son lives." So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.



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# Commentary: Signs and Wonders

- The Jews, learned of the signs and wonders performed through their prophets to demonstrate the power of God
  - <https://www.slideshare.net/HarperCollinsChristian/miracles-performed-by-prophets-of-the-old-testament>
- Unfortunately, this experience made them reliant on signs and wonders which made it difficult to accept faith in Christ (**1 Corinthians 1:21-25**)
- Jesus had already demonstrated miracles to the people in the same region, but it would never be enough for them, which is why He addresses the people when answering the nobleman, who initially would not be satisfied UNLESS Jesus came on his terms

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# Lesson Text

A Nobleman's Son Healed

## JOHN 4:51 – 53 (NKJV)

<sup>51</sup> And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "Your son lives!" <sup>52</sup> Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." <sup>53</sup> So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household.



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# Commentary: Acting in Faith

- Although the nobleman desired for Jesus to come to his home, he took Jesus at his word (LOGOS) that his son would be healed – a major break from the attitudes of the people of that time
- The nobleman's act in faith was confirmed when he heard news of his son's healing before he got home. His servants confirmed the time, which then justified his faith, which was then spread to the others in his home



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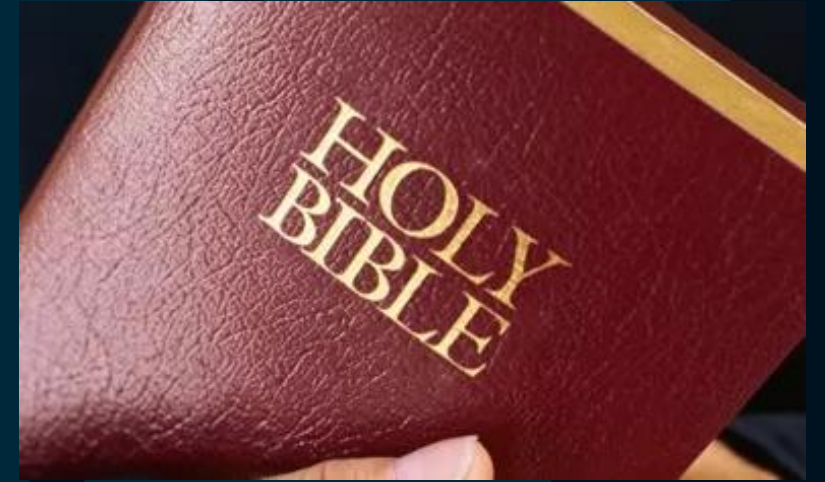
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# Lesson Text

A Nobleman's Son Healed

**JOHN 4:54** (NKJV)

<sup>54</sup> This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.



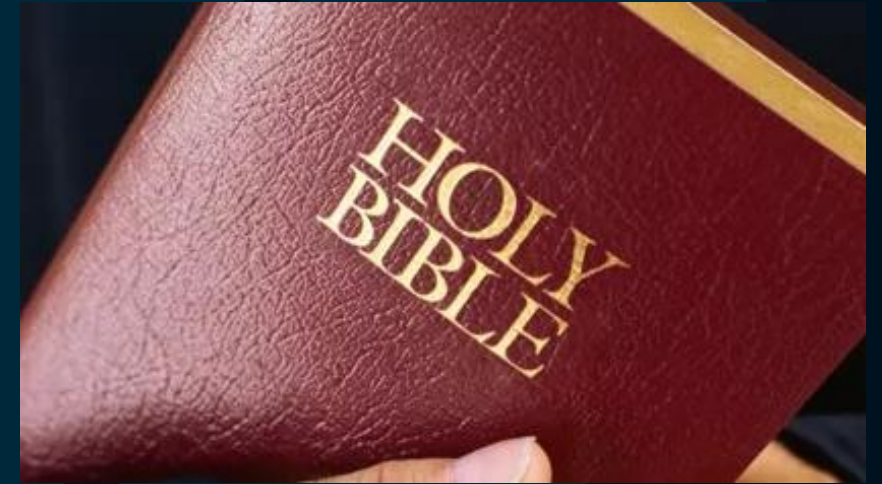
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# Commentary: Belief vs Believing

- Many people treat belief and faith as static concepts, as if they are objects that you hold on to until something happens when you need them
- Believing is an action that is CONTINUALLY applied and in action (i.e. or faith is applied belief) – it is something you have DO
- The Jews of Jesus' time needed something to manifest BEFORE they would believe, and even then, it only lasted until the next challenge where they needed another sign or wonder.
- Signs and Wonders should be a by-product of faith, not a pre-condition.

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# Scripture References



**Deuteronomy 13:1–5**

**Mark 13:14 – 22**

**2 Thessalonians 2:9 – 10**

**The Danger of Signs and Wonders**

# Church School Creed & Benediction

## CREED

Our Church School must grow & grow  
And we must help to make it so  
Every member a **Christian**  
Every Christian a **worker**  
Every worker **trained**  
A worker that **will not be ashamed**  
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

## BENEDICTION

We have come  
We have studied  
We have learned  
So until our next coming together  
To study God's word  
May His rich blessings reside with you  
And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN