

Your Son Lives: John 4:43–54
Jaunting thru John: Message 10

Grace Chapel

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INTRODUCTION

REVIEW OF THE PROLOGUE (John 1:1–18)

The prologue introduces major themes of the book:

Jesus Christ is a member of the Trinity. He created the universe. John the Baptist testified about Him, so that everyone might believe in Christ, but when Christ came to His own people, most of them rejected Him, but all who believe in Him become God's children through faith in Him (not through physical birth).

THE FIRST DISCIPLES (John 1:19–51)

John the Baptist consistently pointed to Christ even before Sadducees and Pharisees who interrogated him. The second time that he pointed to Christ as the Lamb of God, two of John's disciples followed Christ. In the following week several other disciples of John the Baptist believed in Jesus and began following Him.

FIRST SIGN WITNESSED BY JOHN (John 2:1–11)

Jesus and His disciples were invited to a wedding. His mother told Him that they had no wine. After making it clear that He functioned according to the Father's timetable (not according to Mary's) Jesus turned water into wine that was so good that the headwaiter commented to the bridegroom (who knew nothing of the wine's origin), so Jesus' disciples (who witnessed this) believed in Him (whereas they had previously been dependent upon John the Baptist's testimony

MINISTRY IN JUDEA AROUND PASSOVER (John 2:13–3:36)

Just before Passover Jesus chased the vendors out of the Temple and identified the cross and resurrection as the sign giving Him the right to cleanse the Temple. Many believed in Him when they saw His signs, but He did not entrust Himself to the crowds. Nicodemus became a believer when out of the dark night He came into Jesus' presence. The signs told him that Jesus was a God-sent teacher, but was puzzled about the new birth, but kept asking Jesus to clarify: which Jesus did, believing in Him gives on everlasting life; John the Baptist also continued pointing to Christ: even when his ministry was being eclipsed by that of Jesus, he told others that everlasting life came only by believing in Christ.

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN: John 4:1–26

Jesus went to Galilee when His ministry surpassed that of John and offered living water to a Samaritan woman, who questioned His ability to quench thirst eternally, but then wondered if He might be the Christ when He told her all things about herself

MINISTRY IN SYCHAR: 4:27–42

He persuaded men in town to see if Jesus might be the Messiah, as the disciples focused on food, so Jesus told them that the fields are already white for harvest and He allowed them to join in reaping (though they failed to sow); a ministry that resulted in many Samaritans believing in Christ

NEW EXPOSITION:

After two days in Sychar, Jesus went to Galilee, because He had already testified that a prophet does not become a celebrity in his hometown (4:43–44)

The word translated country is *patria*. It is the idea of those belonging to a father's house

The word *For* that begins verse 44 has made the identity of Jesus' *patria* controversial

(1) Some say that John refers to Judea as Jesus' homeland.

If so, this passage would explain why Jesus left Judea three days earlier

However, John already explained why Jesus left Judea

Furthermore, those who see John 4:43–44 as an explanation of why Jesus left Judea contend that John regards the Judean ministry as failed. Wrong!

(2) Some say that John refers to Galilee as Jesus' homeland. So far so good.

These expositors correctly see John 4:43–44 as an explanation of why Jesus went to Galilee.

Most of these say that John hints at the Galilean ministry failing. Wrong!

The correct meaning of Jesus not having honor in His homeland (Galilee)

In light of the Jesus not having celebrity status in His hometown, Galileans welcomed Him after some of them saw Jesus' signs at Passover in Jerusalem (4:45)

Jesus returned to Cana and a royal official met Him there and implored Jesus to come to Capernaum to heal his dying son (4:46–47)

Jesus observed that Messianic signs had an essential role in causing Jewish people to believe in Him (4:48)

He is not rebuking the man, but is stating a fact

The father urged Jesus to come down to Capernaum before his son died (4:49)

Jesus told him, “Your son lives,” which the man believed and he went to Capernaum (by himself) (4:50)

A word about the translation

As the man traveled, his servants met him and announced, “Your son lives.” (4:51)

The father asked when his son recovered and they told him that it was at the seventh hour the day before (4:52)

The father knew that his son recovered right when Jesus told him, “Your son lives,” so he and his household believed (4:53)

The man is reported as having believed on two occasions has created controversy:

Some say that he started with *head faith* and ended with *heart faith*. Wrong!

Rather, the man’s understanding of what Jesus meant changed. Therefore, he believed what he thought Jesus meant. Later, he believed what Jesus really meant.

This was the second of Jesus’ Galilean signs (which the disciples witnessed) (4:54)

CONCLUSION