

FAITH OF THE UNSAVED

John 4:46-54

Introduction: Jesus had a lot of people interested in Him. Multitudes followed Him wherever He went. The temple officials didn't like Him but were curious about Him. The common people thought that He had come to set them free from Roman control and to bring in the long awaited Kingdom of God. The Roman officials and soldiers kept their eyes on Him as He was a potential source of trouble because of all the people flocking around Him. Among all these people who knew of Jesus there were different degrees and kinds of "faith." Our text reveals that a "nobleman" expressed a type of faith that might be called the "faith of the unsaved." Just what kind of faith is "faith of the unsaved?"

I. DIFFERENT DEGREES OF FAITH PRODUCE DIFFERENT RESULTS

1. The text describes a strange scene as an important court official went about 20 miles to find Jesus and ask for help.
 - This man exhibited a small amount of faith and told Jesus what Jesus should do for him. He wanted Jesus to go with him to heal his sick child.
 - A woman with a blood issue wanted to just touch Jesus.
 - Martha wanted Jesus to come be with Lazarus so he would get well.
 - Jesus rebuked the nobleman, showed him no sympathy for he had told Jesus what to do.
 - Jesus told the man to go home and all would be well, but that was very hard to do, take Jesus' word.
 - Today people have the same problem this man did, taking Jesus' word without any visible action by Jesus.
 - However to receive Jesus' promises, we must do as the nobleman did, believe, trust and go on our way, never looking back.
2. Circumstances can bring one to Jesus today as in the days of our text.
 - A sick child brought a man to Jesus in our text.
 - The weakest faith can bring one to Jesus when in sincerity.
 - Too often we come to Jesus as the nobleman did with how we want Jesus to take care of our situation, "just do as I say."
 - We are slow to commit the situation totally to Jesus, we want to keep our "finger" on it.
 - Jesus never turns anyone away who seeks Him - on His terms.

II. THE MORE FAITH ON OUR PART, THE GREATER THE RESULTS FROM GOD

1. The nobleman's faith grew.
 - A weak faith brought him to Jesus and he found in Jesus healing for his child.
 - The result of his first weak faith led him to a deeper faith that brought healing to his child and salvation to him and others of his household.

2. Nothing has changed concerning faith.
 - A small amount of faith can bring one to Jesus and the more God's Word is trusted, the deeper grows faith and the greater God's works are in one's life.
 - Look back into your own life. Look at your faith and God's works. As has been your faith, so has been God's works and so it will ever be.

CONCLUSION:

1. Let all your troubles lead you to Jesus.
 - Sooner or later you will have cause for concern, even tears for no one is exempt.
 - How many have found Jesus and eternal life while in deep trouble?
 - How can one be angry at God for troubles when one finds Jesus and eternal life?
 - Never regret anything in which God has been able to reach you.
2. Never tell Jesus what or how to do things.
 - Jesus knows your situation better than you ever will.
 - Do as did the nobleman finally did, trust the situation to Jesus, allowing Jesus to do whatever He thinks best.
3. Let every help from Jesus cause us to share Jesus more.
 - The nobleman led his whole household to Jesus.
 - A need was met by Jesus, salvation came as one's faith was increased.
4. What kind/degree of faith do you have in Jesus? Is it superficial? Is it weak? Or is it complete, unquestioning trust?