

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

1) vs 44 When Jesus says “a prophet has no honor in his own country” it is a stark contrast of the **ACCEPTANCE** he had just previously experienced with the people of Samaria.

2) vs 45 continues the thought from the preceding verse which tells us the Galileans did not honor Jesus for who He was, but rather for having “seen all the things he did.”

3) vs 46 If you’re a “royal official” in Capernaum, you work for **HEROD ANTIPAS**’ who was the ruler of Galilee from 4 B.C. to A.D. 39

4) vs 47 One thing is on the mind of this man; he is clearly **DISTRAUGHT** about his son’s condition and is **FRANTIC** while “imploring” Jesus to come to Capernaum and heal his son.

5) The “you people” in vs 48 seems to be directed at the **GALILEAN CROWD** who are caught up in the culturally conditioned thinking of – “seeing is believing.”

6) If we are to think like Jesus desires, we must believe His word first, and then see through spiritual eyes second.

7) vs 49 The “Royal Official” demonstrates the feebleness of his faith in that he believes Jesus is capable of healing, but he mistakenly assumed two things- 1.] Jesus had to be **PHYSICALLY PRESENT** in Capernaum, and, 2.] it had to happen within a **SPECIFIC TIME FRAME**.

8) A typical manner of thinking (paradigm) among people is that God must do things “in our way and in our time” which results in the un-intended action of attempting to give **GOD PARAMETERS**.

9) vs 50 By Telling the man- “GO”, Jesus is forcing him to expand his thinking to believe and understand not only **WHAT** Jesus can do, but **HOW** and **WHEN** He does it is entirely up to God and not man.

Many today prefer a selective approach in taking *Jesus at His word* so that social, cultural, and even “religious” paradigms don’t need to be remade.

10) vs 51 The child had been healed the instant Jesus spoke, at 1:PM

11) vs 52 It is apparent that the father thought the healing would be **GRADUAL** (“began to improve”), however the servants reported a complete, and instant recovery (“left him”).

12) vs 53 points to a recognition of God’s command over **SPACE** and **TIME**; it is this comprehension which made him a believer in Jesus as the Christ and he shared this understanding with his entire family.

GREEK WORDS USED TODAY

Mahashaba (makh-ash-aw-baw') *contrivance, intention, plan, purpose, thought*

Erotao (er-o-tah'-o) to *interrogate*; by implication to *request* (call out to):- ask, beseech, desire, intreat

Aphiemi (af-ee'-ay-mee) to *send forth*:- lay aside, leave, let (alone, go), (send) away, yield up

FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

How are you doing these days in taking *Jesus at His Word*?

Do you set aside those commands/teachings which seem too radical and thus too unsettling to your personal comfort zone? Why?

Is your view of God big enough? Can He truly do far more abundantly than anything you might ever think or imagine (Ephesians 3:19)?

Which of your own paradigms (ways of thinking) do you think God’s Spirit still needs to reshape in you?
