



WEEK FIVE HANDOUT – The Son’s Authority Revealed

BAND OF BROTHERS 2020

Key Verse: *“For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son...”*
– John 5:22 ESV

- **A prophet without honor**

- After a 2-day stay in Samaria, Jesus returned to Galilee
- He was returning to His own people

*For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no **honor** in his own hometown.* – John 4:43 ESV

honor – **time** – honor which belongs or is shown to one

- At some point Jesus had made this observation about prophets
- Likely after His stopover in Samaria
- Remember what the Samaritan woman had said

*The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that **you are a prophet.**”* – John 4:19 ESV

- Jesus was moving from Samaria to Galilee
- He was going “home”
- But John states that He was “welcomed”

welcomed – **dechomai** – to receive or grant access to a visitor

- “His own” were going to give Him a different kind of reception

*He came to **his own**, and **his own people did not receive him.*** – John 1:11 ESV

- They “received” Him for the wrong reasons

...the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast. – John 4:45 ESV

*Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when **they saw the signs that he was doing**. – John 2:23 ESV*

- **The Son's Authority Displayed – Part I**

- The healing of the official's son – John 4:46-54

So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. – John 4:46 ESV

There are several transitions taking place

From Samaria to Galilee

From Cana to Capernaum

From a Samaritan woman to a royal official

- This man was likely on the payroll of King Herod
- While the Samaritan woman was likely poor and an outcast, this man was probably rich and powerful
- But his son was at the point of death
- Two kinds of belief
 - John is going to juxtapose the belief of the Samaritans and the official with that of the Jews

*So Jesus said to him, “**Unless you see** signs and wonders you will not believe. – John 4:48 ESV*

“you” – **eido** – second person plural

The people

- “You people”
- The Jews would require a sign before they believed
- Yet the Samaritans believed without any signs

*Many Samaritans from that town believed in him **because of the woman's testimony**, “He told me all that I ever did.” – John 4:39 ESV*

*And many more believed **because of his word**. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world. – John 4:41-42 ESV*

- The Jews had to have proof

*Jews **demand signs** and Greeks search for wisdom... – 1 Corinthians 1:22 BSB*

The man

“Sir, come down before my child dies.” – John 4:49 ESV

- This man already believed
- He was expecting a solution, not a sign
- He had faith that Jesus could heal his son
- And Jesus delivered

***The man believed the word** that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. As he was going down, his servant met him and told him that **his son was recovering**.*
– John 4:50-51 ESV

- Two signs
 - The first sign had happened in Cana – John 2:1-12
 - But no one had actually SEEN the sign
 - Only **the servants** knew what had happened
 - It had been hidden from the Jewish guests
 - This sign emanated from Cana but took place in Capernaum
 - Only **the servants** knew what had happened

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world’s eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God. – 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 ESV

The Son of God’s authority displayed

- Jesus spoke and the boy was healed
- He had power over sickness and death
- He was not limited by time and space
- But His authority was hidden from the sign-seekers
- And it was displayed to the foolish, powerless, and despised

• **The Son’s Authority Displayed – Part II**

- The healing of the invalid – John 5:1-17
 - John moves the scene from Galilee to Jerusalem

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and

*paralyzed. One man was there who had been an invalid for **thirty-eight years**. – John 5:2-5 ESV*

- “thirty-eight years”
- “a long time” – vs 6
- John paints a scene of futility and hopelessness
- The pool is surrounded by the lame, sick, and diseased
- And this man’s problem stands in the way of his solution

*“Sir, **I have no one** to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” – John 5:7 ESV*

This man’s situation is dire

- He is an **invalid** – *astheneia* – without strength
- He is **alone** – without help
- He is surrounded by **sufferers** – without example

...a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed... – John 5:3 ESV

- He is **powerless**—without hope

- At once!

*“**Get up, take up** your bed and **walk**.” And **at once** the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. – John 5:8 ESV*

- The man’s healing was immediate and complete

The Son of God’s authority displayed

- Jesus didn’t help the man into the pool
- By the time Jesus spoke, the healing had occurred
- Nearly 4 decades of disease was cured in an instant
- But there is even more going on here

• **The Basis of the Son’s Authority**

*Now that day was **the Sabbath**. – John 5:9 ESV*

*“...**it is not lawful** for you to take up your bed.” – John 5:10 ESV*

- Out with the old – in with the new
 - John has already established the contrast between Jesus and **the temple**
 - Now he introduces what will be another contrast between Jesus and **the Sabbath**
 - These two things were at the core of Judaism
 - Both were symbols of Israel’s relationship with God
 - **The temple** was the dwelling place of God on earth

- And it was where violations of the law were atoned for
- **The Sabbath** was to be a “sign” of the covenant between Israel and God

“Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you.” – Exodus 31:13-14 ESV

“Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?” – John 5:12 ESV

- Their question is driven by contempt, not curiosity
 - Their rules have been broken
 - They are looking for a **law-breaker**, not a **miracle-worker**
 - This begins what will be an ongoing conflict
- “The will of Him who sent me”

*And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, **because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.** – John 5:16 ESV*

*This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, **because not only** was he breaking the Sabbath, **but he was even calling God his own Father**, making himself equal with God. – John 5:18 ESV*

- This will become the crux of Jesus conflict with the religious leaders of Israel
 - Jesus would claim to be the Son of God – 10X
 - He would claim God as His Father – 13X
 - He would claim to have been sent by God – 6X
 - He would claim to be operating according to His Father’s will – vs 19
 - He would claim to have the God-given right to judge – vs 22
 - He would claim to have received that authority from God – vs 27
 - He would claim to be doing the will of God – vs 30
- But they refuse to believe Him

*His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, and you do not have his word abiding in you, for **you do not believe the one whom he has sent.** – John 5:37-38 ESV*

- They reject the very one who had been sent by God
- **FOR FURTHER THOUGHT**
Why do you think Jesus placed so much emphasis on His having been **sent** by God? What does that have to do with His authority?

Concerning the two miracles John describes in this section, how did they display Jesus' authority and reveal that He had been sent by God?

If the Sabbath was a sign of God's covenant relationship with Israel, what message was Jesus sending by purposefully healing on that day?