



The Life of Jesus

A CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY

Lesson 26: John 4:43-54; Luke 4:14-15 Believing and Believing

I. vv.43-44

A. v.43 – John often uses “connector” verses to show a shift in the text - Like 2:12 – “after this they moved to Capernaum”

B. v.44 – This looks similar to other stories in the Synoptics - All are at the time Jesus was rejected in Nazareth

C. We should never assume Jesus only said something once – it can seem like inconsistencies until we study - Some scholars think an editor(s) added the parenthetical comments

D. Where is your *patris*?

1. “*patris*” is hometown – “patriot” - Each of the Synoptics clearly say He’s from Nazareth

2. How does Jesus get “welcomed” in v.45 and “no honor” in v.44?

3. Jesus’ *patris*? Three options to consider:

a. Jesus’s *patris* is Judea – Bethlehem – and Pharisees have run Him out

b. Jesus’s *patris* is Heaven

c. It’s Galilee and they are welcoming Him as a miracle man and not the prophesied Messiah

II. v.45 - Galilee welcomes Him back because why?

A. Seven Differences Between Galilee and Judea

1. Racially – half-breed Samaritans and Greeks (Nazareth and Capernaum exceptions)

2. Geographically – Separated by Samaria, Perea and close to Decapolis

3. Politically – Different tetrarchies of Herod’s boys

4. Culturally – “not like us”

5. Economically – Galilee more prosperous

6. Linguistically – Galilean Aramaic was distinct – New Yorkers vs. Southerners

7. Religiously – Galileans too close to Greek Gentiles

B. Luke 4:14-15

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

III. vv.46-47

IV. vv.48-50

A. Who is the official? Did he know Matthew?

B. v.48 – Who is “y’all”?

- Sign is *semeion* which is often translated “miracles”

C. v.50 – the man *pisteuo* – “believed” - 248 times in NT – 98 in John’s gospel - 19 times in the “Cana cycle”

V. vv. 51-54

A. v.51 - Cana to Nazareth is either 18 or 21 miles depending on the route
Cana is a higher elevation than sea level

B. v.52 – The 7th hour was likely 1:00 pm – Roman time would be sundown

C. v.53 - the whole household believed

1. Had they experienced a “Jesus is calling” and not known it? - Somebody saw some signs somewhere (Cana wedding? Passover? The “report about Him”?)

2. Sent the master to Cana to find hope of healing

3. Saw the child healed

4. Then their master said it was because of Jesus and names the exact time - This Gentile, Roman official closed the loop

➤ **What does it take for us to believe?**

D. v.54 - What’s the difference between a sign and a miracle?

VI. The “Cana Cycle” – What is John 2-4 telling us?

A. Many “therefores”: “so when” or “now then” or “when” or “so” or “once more”

B. The “book ends”:

1. The wedding feast and the sick son BOTH need Jesus
2. Jesus censures Mary and “y’all” sign seekers
3. Miraculous answers (wine and healing)

C. Knowing Who He was

1. Mary at the wedding? “Do what He says” – “Not my worry”
2. Cleansing the temple part 1
3. “Didn’t entrust himself to them”
4. Nic at Night – must be born again
5. “He must increase I must decrease”
6. “I who speak to you am He”
7. The Savior of the World
8. “...and all his household believed”

D. John’s believing examples:

1. A devout Jew – Mary
2. “the wishy-washy people”
3. A Pharisee and teacher and a leader
4. A half-breed outcast woman who had her theology wrong
5. A Gentile Roman citizen

VII. My “Take Away”

- Our beliefs may be messed up but He is clear
- How many “signs” do you need to believe?
- “Whosoever” means whosoever

Questions? Comments? Thoughts?
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