

# THE GOSPEL *of JOHN*

## CHAPTER 4 : 43-54

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**"Enemies of the Faith"**

THE THEME OF BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

***Unbelief, Healing, Signs***

**INTRODUCTION**

**To The Text**

**John 4:43-54**

## Enemies of the Faith

There are obstacles to Faith that hinders and even prevents people from coming to faith in Jesus Christ.

### **Jesus here announces that**

a prophet has honor and acceptance everywhere he goes except in his own country, his own people, his own house

**1.) Unbelief – an obstacle to faith in God                          vv. 43-45**

**2.) Pride – an obstacle to the hope of God                          vv. 46-47**

**3.) Doubt – an obstacle to the love of God                          vv. 48-54**

# Enemies of the Faith

## 1.) Unbelief – an obstacle to faith in God

vv. 43-45

**Now** after the two days He departed from there and went to Galilee. For Jesus Himself testified that **a prophet has no honor in his own country**. So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they also had gone to the feast.

### a.) Unbelief has its territories

v.43

**Now** after the two days He **departed from there** and went to Galilee.

‘There’ Being Samaria  
(*the ones you’d expect to give their lives to Christ*)

Leaving Samaria He goes up to Galilee  
(back on the road to galilee as before)

There, The Harvest of Souls  
had been beyond imagination and expectation. Jesus enjoyed so much what was happening in the spirit that He stayed there two days

#### John 4:42

Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him **and we know** that this is indeed the Christ, **the Savior of the world.**"

Cultures / Peoples / Regions / Places / Homes

## Enemies of the Faith

**Unbelief has it's territories**

Mark 9:23-24

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; **help my unbelief!**"

## ***Unbelief – an obstacle to faith in God***

### **b.) Unbelief can blind us to the truth**

**v.44**

**For** Jesus Himself testified that **a prophet has no honor in his own country.**

### **Jesus Himself testified**

That is that He gave witness to the fact that Israel would not believe in Him

## **Christianity is an Intelligent Faith**

**God Expects Us to Use our Brains**

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

### **The Prophet**

(Jesus' Teaching and **Preaching** Ministry)

### **The Honor**

(The **Acceptance** owed Him for all that He had done)

# The Country

(Jesus' own country - the people of **Judea**)

## In a Real Sense, Jesus was Glad to "Go Through Samaria" and head towards "The Galilee of the Gentiles"

\*

honor grk 5092 time (tee-may');  
a high value, an esteemed worth (especially of the highest  
degree),  
820 atimos (at'-ee-mos); dishonoured, despised, without  
value and worth

### **Matthew 13:54-58**

And when He had come to His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? 55 "Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? 56 "And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?" 57 So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, "**A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house.**" 58 **Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.**

### **Mark 6:3-6**

"Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" And they were offended at Him. 4 But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." 5 Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6 And He **marveled** because of their unbelief.

### **Luke 4:16-28**

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." 20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." 22 So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" 23 He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.'" 24 Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. 25 "But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; 26 "but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. 27 "And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." 28 So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,

## WHAT WOULD JESUS TESTIFY OF YOU ?

What facts and evidence must Jesus declare of in the end

**a.) Unbelief has its territories**

**b.) Unbelief can blind us to the truth**

**c.) Unbelief can never be satisfied**      **v.45**

**So** when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, **having seen all the things He did in Jerusalem** at the feast; for they also had gone to the feast.

having seen all the things

It's Been Said That Seeing is Believing. Not true  
in the Real World. Believing is Seeing

Believing After Hearing is Greater than Believing  
After Seeing

Seeing is Believing  
Believing is Seeing

If you can be convinced by what you see. Then you can also be deceived by what you see. Because you have established human experience over divine reality

John 2:23-25

Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast,  
**many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did.**  
24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, 25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

## Enemies of the Faith

**1.) Unbelief – an obstacle to faith in God                                  vv. 43-45**

**2.) Pride – an obstacle to the hope of God                                  vv. 46-47**

**So** Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. **When** he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and **implored** Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

## a.) **Pride often refuses the hope of God**

v.46

So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a **certain nobleman** whose son was sick at Capernaum.

### Why Go Back to Cana ?

**There** was a certain nobleman

(*a man of civic authority. A politician of some level*)

\*

nobleman grk bisilikos

a royal man, a kings man, one who's of the king

**Herod's Men had Power and Influence, Servants and Slaves  
But he was helpless at this point**

Luke 1:50-51

50 And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with His arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

## **Pride often refuses the hope of God**

Mark 7:21-22

"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 "thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride,

I John 2:16

For all that is in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world.

A Nobleman from Capernaum in all of his wealth and pride

Meets Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth

1 Corinthians 1:26

For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

He Came in Desperation  
**whose son was sick at Capernaum.**

(Sick as in near the point of death)

## The Lindbergh

Kidnapping shocked the world. And a newspaper reported that "Poor Lindbergh, He has 6,000,000.00 dollars in his pocket but can't get his son back

Why Go Back to Cana ?  
When the nobleman was from Capernaum

This is the Jesus

of the Bible

This is the Jesus

of Today

Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

## To The Laboring and Laden

This Man is in Distress,  
Because Someone He loves is in Great Need

"Jesus Could Have Said - See These Hands"  
the formed mankind and have measured out the seas. These hands have spanned the universe...

**Pride often refuses the hope of God**

**b.) Pride keeps us from coming to Jesus**

**v.47**

When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and **implored** Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

\*

Implored grk

To keep on asking. To persist. To stay at it

heal his son

**The Boy's Condition (and the Father's  
too)**

for he was at the point of death.

The bisilikos  
the royal man, the kings man, the who is of the  
king

**kept on asking. persisting. He stayed at it**

Luke 11:9-10

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

## I Remember Ashley's Birth And Remember Ashley's Eighth Month

Pressure Pressure Pressure Pressure

**1.) Unbelief – an obstacle to faith in God                          vv. 43-45**

**2.) Pride – an obstacle to the hope of God                          vv. 46-47**

## Enemies of the Faith

**3.) Doubt – an obstacle to the love of God                          vv. 48-54**

**Then** Jesus said to him, "**Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.**" 49 **The** nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!" 50 Jesus said to him, "**Go your way; your son lives.**" So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. 51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "**Your son lives!**" **Then** he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the

seventh hour the fever left him." 53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household. 54 This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

### a.) Doubt causes us to be unstable

v.48

**Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe."**

Unless you people see

James 1:5-8

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

## The 'How To' To Overcoming Doubt

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

John 14:10-11

"Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. 11 "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

# The Example of Thomas

John 20:24-29

24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." 26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

## **Doubt causes us to be unstable**

### **b.) Doubt causes us to hesitate**

**v.49-51**

**The** nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!" 50 Jesus said to him, "**Go your way; your son lives.**" So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. 51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "Your son lives!"

Here is the development of Saving Faith. The man first believed in Jesus enough to obey the command to...

**" Go Your Way"**

**but also**

**"Your son Lives "**

# **Jesus Throws The Man Before Faith**

If the Turn and walks back home to Capernaum there is the risk of his son not being healed at all...

But if he stays and persists with Jesus then he runs the risk of offending the one in whom he needs the most

"Go Home"  
"Go Home"  
"Go Home"  
"Go Home"  
"Go Home"  
"Go Home"

**Will You Believe Me  
or Will You Doubt Me**

To Believe Me is to Trust  
To Doubt Me is to Call Me a Lair

## **The Man Leaves Believing**

That Jesus is Telling the Truth. That if Jesus Has The Power to Turn Water into Wine  
Then maybe This situation can be changed too.

## **He Doesn't Get Saved Until Verse 53**

**But the man, at this point, only believes that Jesus is a miracle worker**

the man believed

**Your Belief in Christ  
must bring you to Faith in Christ**

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

John 17:8

"For I have given to them **the words** which You have given Me; and they have **received** them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have **believed** that You sent Me.

**Doubt causes us to be unstable**

**Doubt causes us to hesitate**

**c.) Doubt causes us to worry**

**v.52-54**

**Then** he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household. 54 This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

# Yesterday

**the seventh hour**

1:00 pm. Jewish Time - 7:00 pm. Roman Time

This Man Began with **Crisis** Faith  
Which Increased to a **Confident** Faith  
Which arrived at a **Confirmed** Faith  
Which led to a **Contagious** Faith

And he himself believed,  
and his whole household

If Jesus Was Good Enough for my Son  
Then He's Good Enough for Me. And if He's Good Enough for Me  
then He's Good Enough for My Family

## **Doubt causes us to worry**

Jesus Had Announced That a Prophet Receives Honor Everywhere He goes Except from those closest to Him...

But What Happened with this Man ?  
His Family Received

Jesus is Talking About Himself - Being the Prophet  
...Your "Household" Must Come by Faith Just Like You Did

# I Wonder if, at the end of the day,

the disciples sat around the fire and reviewed the events of the day? Did they do what we so often have done? Did they talk about how the Lord led this man to the knowledge of God and how that man exercised faith and headed home to see his little boy just on the word of Jesus alone...

Wasn't it great how Nicodemus came to Jesus with all of his curiosity And how Jesus kept probing into the life of that Samaritan woman until she saw the light and now this nobleman...

Malachi 3:16

Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who meditate on His name.

## Enemies of the Faith

**1.) *Unbelief – an obstacle to faith in God***      **vv. 43-45**

**2.) *Pride – an obstacle to the hope of God***      **vv. 46-47**

**3.) *Doubt – an obstacle to the love of God***      **vv. 48-54**

**End of Study**