

THE MINISTRY OF THE LORD JESUS

Lesson Six

III. The Ministry of Healing (1): The Royal Official's Son (John 4:43-54)

Burden to Impart:

The Lord Jesus is able to meet all of our needs. Although this story is about a strong young boy who became sick and was dying, it may also be applied to us. We sometimes have problems in our hearts and minds that make us feel weak, sick and even "dying." The Lord's Word is powerful and full of life. When we receive His Word in faith it imparts comfort, encouragement, strength and life into us. We do not need the Lord to appear and touch us physically; we only need to receive His Word with a believing heart, and His Word will strengthen us and raise us up.

Memory Verse: This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your Word has given me life.

Psalm 119:50

Facts to Teach:

1. The healing of the royal official's son took place at Cana of Galilee. Cana means "a land of reeds," which speaks of a land full of weak and fragile people. The principle in this sign is to change death into life.
2. The sign today concerns a young man who was so sick that he was dying. This sign reveals that we all need healing. Even though we are not physically dead, we are all, no matter how young or old, in the process of dying. It might sound strange, but even a young baby is dying. If you are young, you do not have the feeling that you are dying, but when you are older, such as sixty or seventy years old, you will know that you are dying.
3. We all need the healing of the Lord Jesus, and when we enjoy the Lord's Word and contact Him daily, even our dying will become living.
4. While the Lord Jesus was ministering in Cana, a royal official, a nobleman, came to Him and asked Him to go to Capernaum and heal his dying son.
5. Jesus replied to him, "Go, your son is living." Jesus did not go to the official's home with him as he had asked. He did not need to. He simply spoke His Word, and the boy was healed at that very instant.
6. The royal official believed the word which Jesus said to him and went on his way home (v. 50).
7. As he was going home, his slaves met him and brought him word that his boy was well and living.
8. He asked them at what hour the boy got better. When they told him that it was the seventh hour of the day before, the father knew that it was in the very same hour that Jesus had said to him, "Your son is living."
9. He believed in Jesus, and his whole household believed also. Hallelujah for the life-giving Word! The words that the Lord speaks are spirit and life (Jn. 6:63).
10. The Lord Jesus simply spoke the Word, the life-giving Word, and the dying boy was healed. The Lord is still sending forth His living Word today.
11. This case of healing shows us that there is no need for the Lord to appear to us physically. As long as we receive the Lord's Word in faith it is sufficient. It will save us, nourish us, strengthen us, satisfy us and heal us; thus changing our death into life.

