**John 4: 43-54 Power Of The Future Kingdom In Present Time 9/20/2020**

**Intro: 1993 E-coli in Washington State**/ Jack-in-the box/ Grant and I just heard about it and had just eaten at the Jack-In-The-Box in Olympia on Martin Way. Good teaching moment! Grant said, “Will we die?”

I said,“ Yes, but maybe not soon, or from this e-coli stuff. We just pray that God protect us, and help the people who are sick; or that He heals us if we get anything, but if we stay close to Him we will finish our life mission here.” He said, “That’s good, O.K.”

700 sick, 171 hospitalized, 4 kids had died.

 Daughter of a young couple in our church had it. We prayed; she lived!

**Today we experience the passion of a father who feels helpless to help his own child. He “believed” Jesus twice! WHAT? ( We will explain)**

**READ John 2:23-25** In Jerusalem many Galileans attended the Passover. The **“belief”** was **not** saving belief.

Doobie Brothers anyone? “Jesus Is Just Alright With Me.”

Jesus was rejected twice by the people of Nazareth of southern Galilee. He knew that was a good place to go until things calmed down in Judea. The Pharisees were out to get Him. He wanted to prove who He was before openly declaring who He was to the Judea area. To the woman at the well He could fully tell who He was without all the false baggage collected around Judea’s wrong views of Messiah.

**Read 4:1-4** Samaria was on the way.

**Read 4:43** **“From there”** - Samaria to northern Galilee where we have Cana and Capernaum, which cities were about 25 miles apart.

**4: 44-45** “Seems like” a pleasant surprise but turns out their faith was no better than it was when they had seen Him in Jerusalem. Will prove that in v. 48.

**Real faith in Christ** for eternal life must be more than just believing He can do miracles. It means to really follow Him with your life. To surrender your life to follow Him however, and wherever He may lead. To be willing to go against the world to follow Him. That He becomes your Lord, your Boss. The purpose of your life.

**4:46-48** Signs and wonders were a necessary part to establish the identity of Jesus, but many saw them and remained lost.

 **How did Jesus substantiate His claim to Be God?**

 **1.** His fulfillment of O.T. prophecies

 **2.** His sinless life and miraculous deeds

 **3.** His resurrection from the dead

**Matthew 16:4** “A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign,,”

**READ John 20: 24-31** “ Blessed are those who do not see, and yet believe.”

While a miracle can spur real belief, it is not automatically going to do so. Some just like to be associated with power but will not commit to fully to Jesus.

That is why I said earlier, we are going to see a Royal official **who believed twice!**

**4:49** Every parent knows how this feels! The man still felt that Jesus had to be on the scene to help his son, but he has put all he knows how, at this first belief, into trusting what Jesus said! He is responding to the light he has, and much more will be given!

**4:50** He believed, and proved the unseen faith by an action that everyone can see. You can’t see the wind, but you can see its effects! His **first** belief!

So did he doubt on his way home? Maybe, we don’t know his thoughts but we do know his feet kept moving. Stopping will help nothing!

How about you? Taking these days to take time away from the Lord and trust more in politics? Are has your faith been strengthened in these days? How do you know? Look at your feet!

**4: 51** Imagine the grin on the faces of the servants, speed –walking

 being the first to tell him the good news!

**4:52-54** The **second time** he believed! He gave his whole life to Jesus!

 That is real saving- for- all - eternity belief!