

Your Son Lives... Lives... Lives

John H. Niemelä at Crosspoint Community Church,
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Introduction

REVIEW: Signs

John arranges his Gospel around eight signs:

20³⁰ Jesus actually performed many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these [eight signs] are written so that **you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing, **you may have life** in His Name. (Logos 21 Version: *Living Water*)

A. John 1-12 Has Seven Witnessed Signs (each more persuasive than those before it):

Sign 1: Water to Wine (<i>speaks in 2:7-8</i>)	[2:1-11]
Sign 2: Heal Official's Son from Afar (<i>speaks in 4:50</i>)	[4:46-54]
Sign 3: Heal Man who Was Lame 38 Years (<i>speaks in 5:8</i>)	[5:1-15]
Sign 4: Feed 5,000 Men plus women/children (<i>speaks in 6:10-11</i>)	[6:1-14]
Sign 5: Walk on water + Teleport to Capernaum (<i>speaks in 6:20</i>)	[6:15-21]
Sign 6: Heal Man Born Blind (<i>speaks in 9:7</i>)	[9:1-12]
Sign 7: Raise Lazarus (<i>speaks in 11:4; cf. "Didn't I tell you" in 11:40</i>)	[11:1-44]

B. John 13-21 Has One Supreme Sign that is Predicted and Confirmed.

B-1. The Prediction of the Supreme Sign: (John 2:18-19, 21)

B-2. The Supreme Sign: The Cross and Resurrection (John 19-20)

B-3. Four Confirmations of the Supreme Sign

Confirmatory Appearance to Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18)

Confirmatory Appearance to Ten Disciples: (John 20:19-23)

Confirmatory Appearance to Eleven Disciples: (John 20:24-29)

Confirmatory Appearance to Seven Disciples: 21:1-14)

NEW EXPOSITION: John 4:43-54

Background:

Jesus' ministry in the Judean Wilderness eclipsed John the Baptist (3:22; 4:1f)

This upset John the Baptist's disciples (3:26)

This brought unwanted attention from the Pharisees (4:1f)

This caused Jesus to travel north to Galilee via Samaria (4:3f)

After ministering two days in Samaria, Jesus went to Galilee (4:43)

Jesus had left Judea (4:3f) for Galilee because a prophet lacks honor in his homeland (4:44)

Where is Jesus' homeland?

Throughout John's Gospel, people assume that it is Galilee.

Jesus regarded His homeland as Judea; but (even more to the point) He is from above and was sent by the Father.

Galileans received Him, since they saw all [the signs] He did in Jerusalem at Passover (4:45)

Note the wording: Galileans *saw all that He did* in Jerusalem

What did they see? Signs (John 2:23; 3:2)

What does John mean when he speaks of seeing a sign? Cf. John 6:26.

Galileans who believed during the Passover feast in Jerusalem welcomed Him.

Jesus was at Cana of Galilee where He had made water wine (4:46a)

A Herodian official came to Cana from Capernaum, because Jesus was there (4:46b)

The road from Capernaum to Cana climbs about 500 feet over thirty miles

This is about a one-day horseback ride.

The official was Jewish, based on Jesus' answer in 4:48. He was not a Roman.

How did He know that Jesus was in Cana of Galilee?

The royal official begged Jesus to heal his dying son (4:47)

Jesus matter-of-factly acknowledged that Jews needed signs (4:48)

This is not a rebuke. Jesus only those who rejected one sign, while seeking another

The purpose statement (John 20:30-31) views signs positively.

Deuteronomy 18 says that Israel would verify the Prophet like Moses via his signs.

The royal official said, “Lord, come down before my child dies!” (4:49)

Lord? or Sir?

Jesus told him, “Go your way, your son lives.” (4:50a)

This is the first of three times that this idea appears in the passage.

The word *live* is vital to understanding John’s Gospel.

The man believed Jesus’ word and left (4:50b)

The verb *pisteuō* (believe) expects content (speech) spoken by someone. Thus, the verb may have:

1. no stated objects (as in 4:53),
2. a stated content object with the speaker of the content implicit (as in 4:50),
3. a stated personal (speaker) object with the content implicit (as in 5:24),
4. both a personal and a content object (as in 4:21).

On his way down, the man's servants met him, saying "Your son lives." (4:51)

The royal official asked when his son started recovering (4:52a)

The word used refers to the starting point of recovery

What did the man believe in 4:50?

Is this the so-called head faith? Or is there a better explanation?

His servants told him that the fever vanished at 1:00 the day before (4:52b)

Galileans told time starting at daybreak.

The father knew that the healing took place right when Jesus said, "Your son lives" (4:53a)

The father and his whole household believed _____ (4:53b)

This was the second sign Jesus did after coming out of Judea into Galilee (4:54)

Note the purpose statement again.

John records signs after Jesus started accumulating disciples

John 21:24

CONCLUSION