

Adonai, Yahweh, Jehovah, The One True God, The God of Israel, The Lord of Hosts, The King of Israel, The One and Only True God, The Righteous Word of God Almighty, The Sacrificial Lamb, The Lion of the

**The Life and Times of  
Jesus Christ**

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of  
the beginning and the ending, the first and the last,  
The Only Real, Living and Breathing God, He Who Is,  
He Who Was, and He Who Will Be Forever, Abba  
Father, Our Creator, Our God, Our Soul's Beloved, God

## **Part 18**

# **Christ's Rebuke of Those Who Only Seek Miracles**

**Matthew**

**Mark**

**Luke**

**John**

**John 4:43-54**

# **John 4:43 - NLT**

**At the end of the two days,  
Jesus went on to Galilee.**

# John 4:44

He himself had said that a prophet  
is not honored in his own  
hometown.

# John 4:45

Yet the Galileans welcomed him, for they had been in Jerusalem at the Passover celebration and had seen everything he did there.

# John 4:46

As he traveled through Galilee, he came to Cana, where he had turned the water into wine. There was a government official in nearby Capernaum whose son was very sick.



# John 4:47

When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged Jesus to come to Capernaum to heal his son, who was about to die.

# **John 4:48 - NLT**

**Jesus asked, “Will you never believe in me unless you see miraculous signs and wonders?”**

# John 4:48 - NIV

“Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him, “you will never believe.”

# John 4:48 - NASB

Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you *simply* will not believe.”

# John 4:49

The official pleaded, “Lord, please come now before my little boy dies.”

# John 4:50

Then Jesus told him, “Go back home. Your son will live!” And the man believed what Jesus said and started home.

# John 4:51

While the man was on his way,  
some of his servants met him  
with the news that his son was  
alive and well.

# John 4:52

He asked them when the boy had begun to get better, and they replied, “Yesterday afternoon at one o’clock his fever suddenly disappeared!”



# John 4:53

Then the father realized that that was the very time Jesus had told him, “Your son will live.” And he and his entire household believed in Jesus.

# John 4:54

This was the second miraculous sign  
Jesus did in Galilee after coming  
from Judea.

## **Part 18**

# **Christ's Rebuke of Those Who Only Seek Miracles**

# Principle #1

**Jesus Christ intentionally and repeatedly chooses not to be where most people expect Him to be, and He chooses not to do what most people expect Him to do. All of this is done because the Lord has His own agenda.**

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# Principle #1

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# Where Are You Jesus?

After healing Simon's mother-in-law and the multitudes all night long, Jesus gets up early in the morning and leaves everyone to be alone with the Father. Even after the townspeople find and beg Him to stay with them, He leaves them, performing no more miracles. Lk 4:42-44

# **Where Are You Jesus?**

**During the Passover Festival, because Jesus worked so many miracles, the people began to believe in His name.**

**But Jesus did not entrust Himself to them, meaning He did not believe in their “faith”. John 2:23-25**

# Where Are You Jesus?

Jesus goes to Samaria and encounters the Samaritan woman at the well. As a result, the Samaritans beg Jesus to stay with them so they could hear His message. He stays two days and His ministry is spectacularly successful there, without a single miracle. Jn 4:1-42

# Where Are You Jesus?

The last time Christ was in Galilee, specifically in Nazareth, His hometown tried to kill Him by throwing Him off a cliff. Even though He knows a prophet is of no honor in His own home, He returns to Galilee, to the place where they dishonor Him. Jn 4:43-54

# Where Are You Jesus?

- His disciples were disappointed that He didn't come to free Israel.
- Jesus does not immediately leave to heal Lazarus when he was sick but instead let him die. John 11:1-44
- Jesus was not in the tomb after His death and burial. John 20:1-2

# Principle #1

**Jesus Christ intentionally and repeatedly chooses not to be where most people expect Him to be, and He chooses not to do what most people expect Him to do. All of this is done because the Lord has His own agenda.**

# Principle #2

**When a person's faith in God depends on answered prayers, miracles, signs, or wonders, it is not biblical faith. And that kind of faith will save no one.**



# John 4:46b

There was a government official in nearby Capernaum whose son was very sick.

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# Principle #3

**Biblical saving faith in Jesus Christ requires belief in His identity as God incarnate, and it requires obeying Him as the LORD of Lords.**

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# Jesus' Answer

- *The Official begs Jesus for a miracle.*
- **Jesus criticized those who only seek after answered prayers and miracles.**
- *The Royal Official again begged Jesus to come and heal his son.*
- **Jesus then placed Himself between the request and the healing.**

# Jesus' Answer

- Jesus decided not to go home with the Royal Official but told him to go home because his son would live.
- *The Royal Official believed Jesus and headed home.*
- *On the way home he receives the good news about his son.*

# Jesus' Answer

- *After fully understanding that Jesus healed his son, the Royal Official's entire family came to believe in Jesus Christ.*



# Principle #3

**Biblical saving faith in Jesus Christ requires belief in His identity as God incarnate, and it requires obeying Him as the LORD of Lords.**

# Principle #4

**Only disciples of Jesus Christ will continue to believe in and follow Him after they have gone through different seasons of major pain, heart breaking disappointments, prolonged sufferings, and unanswered prayers.**

# Where's My Miracle?



**Joni Eareckson Tada - 1967**

# Where's My Miracle?

- **At 17, a careless dive into shallow water left her as a quadriplegic.**
- **Too disabled to commit suicide.**
- **Came to Christ after her accident,  
-If I can't die, show me how to live.**

# Where's My Miracle?

- She became a best-selling artist.
- She became a best-selling author.
- Her daily radio program received “The Radio Program of the Year” Award from the national religious broadcasters in 2002.

# Where's My Miracle?

- **Founder and President of Joni and Friends, an organization that “accelerates Christian ministry in the disability community.”**
- **She has received eight honorary doctorates and won over 22 awards**

# Where's My Miracle?

- **Several appearances on Larry King Live**
- **Diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer in 2010. Was declared cancer free in 2015.**

# Where's My Miracle?

- Diagnosed with a different kind of cancer in 2018. Declared cancer free again in 2019.
- Married Ken Tada in 1982
- She remains a quadriplegic today, 57 years after her accident, age 74.



# Principle #4

**Only disciples of Jesus Christ will continue to believe in and follow Him after they have gone through different seasons of major pain, heart breaking disappointments, prolonged sufferings, and unanswered prayers.**

# Principle #5

**As Christians, we must stop believing that all of our ways are God's way or that all of our desires are Jesus' desires or that what we believe is best is what the Holy Spirit is saying.**

# Principle #6

**The Bible clearly shows us that answered prayers, miracles, signs, and wonders do not automatically lead people to faith in Jesus Christ.**

# **Luke 16:19 - NTV**

**Jesus said, “There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed in purple and fine linen and who lived each day in luxury.**

# Luke 16:20

At his gate lay a poor man named  
Lazarus who was covered with  
sores.

# Luke 16:21

As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man's table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores.

# Luke 16:22

Finally, the poor man died and was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham at the heavenly banquet. The rich man also died and was buried,

# Luke 16:23

and he went to the place of the dead. There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side.



# Luke 16:24

The rich man shouted, 'Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.'

## **Luke 16:25**

**But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish.'**

# **Luke 16:26**

**And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.'**

# Luke 16:27

Then the rich man said, 'Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father's home.'

# Luke 16:28

For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don't end up in this place of torment.'

# Luke 16:29

But Abraham said, 'Moses and the prophets have warned them. Your brothers can read what they wrote.'

# **Luke 16:30**

**The rich man replied, 'No, Father Abraham! But if someone is sent to them from the dead, then they will repent of their sins and turn to God.'**

# Luke 16:31

But Abraham said, 'If they won't listen to Moses and the prophets, they won't be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'



# Principle #6

**The Bible clearly shows us that answered prayers, miracles, signs, and wonders do not automatically lead people to faith in Jesus Christ.**

# Principle #7

**Those who predominantly focus on answered prayers, miracles, signs, and wonders will usually also be the same ones who remain blind and undesirous of what God is already doing all around them.**

**How have you been  
responding when it  
becomes clear that God's  
will does not match your  
desires or your prayers?**

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