

John 4:50

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

Analysis

Jesus' simple command 'Go thy way; thy son liveth' tests the nobleman's faith—will he believe Christ's word without visible proof? The statement 'the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken' marks transition to mature faith. He departed trusting Christ's declaration, demonstrating that saving faith rests on divine testimony, not empirical evidence.

Historical Context

Ancient healings typically required presence, touch, or ritual. Jesus' distant, spoken-word healing demonstrates His authority over space and time. This miracle anticipates the centurion's greater faith (Matthew 8:8) that Jesus need only 'speak the word.'

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to believe Christ's word before seeing results?
2. How does faith progress from demanding signs to trusting promises?

Interlinear Text

λέγει	αὐτῷ	ό	Ἰησοῦς	ἐπορεύετο	ό	υἱός	σου	ζῆ
saith	unto him	G3588	Jesus	Go thy way	G3588	son	thy	liveth
G3004	G846		G2424	G4198		G5207	G4675	G2198
καὶ	ἐπίστευσεν	ό	ἄνθρωπος	τῷ	λόγῳ	ῷ	εἶπεν	
And	believed	G3588	the man	G3588	the word	that	had spoken	
G2532	G4100		G444		G3056	G3739	G2036	
αὐτῷ	Ἰησοῦς	καὶ	ἐπορεύετο					
unto him	Jesus	And	Go thy way					
G846	G2424	G2532	G4198					

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 8:13 (Faith): And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Luke 17:14 (Parallel theme): And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.