

JOHN

BELIEVE

"Belief and the Masquerade of Miracles"

INTRO: *In John's Gospel, seven of Jesus' many miracles were described as **signs**. Miracles are awe-inspiring, but they can also be deceptive. Do we exercise faith in miracles or the miracle-worker? In today's study, belief and miracles are dramatically juxtaposed for the reader's consideration.*

I. Jesus performed _____ attesting to His

_____. *Jesus' miracles attracted many people. Even skeptics were compelled to investigate their significance (Cf. 3:2).*

II. A belief in _____ does not _____ (4:43-45).

*Many people **believed in Jesus** because of the miracles He performed, but their belief was **unacceptable** to Him (Cf. 2:23-25).*

III. Believe in _____ of whom the _____ attest to be saved (4:46-54).

It is possible to believe in miracles and miss their significance. The royal official is a model of one who believed Jesus' Word apart from witnessing the actual miracle.

A. Miracles are limited in _____ and _____.

Miraculous signs do not automatically lead to faith; neither do they instantaneously vanquish doubt (Cf. Luke 16:19-31).

B. Seeking signs may be _____ but belief apart from them is _____. Cf. Matt. 6:1-4; John 20:29.