

## BYSTANDER

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FORTH

**THE SEVENTH HOUR** 

## > "LIVING-AS-IF" PEOPLE

**BELIEVE IN-SPITE-OF PEOPLE** 

## IS IT THEIR "BLIND FAITH" OR IS IT OUR "WILLFUL BLINDNESS"?

BYSTANDER JOHN 6 THE RABBI FROM NAZARETH Following Jesus (Christianity) is not about "just believing" or "taking it by faith."

That (Jesus) which was from the beginning, which we have heard. which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched this we proclaim concerning the Word of life (Jesus). The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, ...

1 John 1: 1-3a NIV

## **JOHN'S GOSPEL: SEVEN SIGNS**

- 1. The Wine Maker: Six Stone Jars and a Nudge (John 2: 1-12)
- 2. The Choreographer: Long Distance Healing (John 4: 43-54)
- 3. The Rule Breaker: It's Never Too Late (John 5: 1-15)
- 4. Lord Algebra: 5 + 2 = 5,000 w/R 12 (John 6: 1-15)
- 5. The Water Walker: Faith is Spelled R.I.S.K (John 6: 16-24)
- 6. The Eye Opener: Never Say Never (John 9: 1-12)
- 7. The Grave Robber: Punctuating His Power (John 11: 1-44)
- Easter Invitation to Believe: What do you believe?

BYSTANDER JOHN & THE RABBI FROM NAZARETH Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these (seven) are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing (by faith in Jesus) you may have life in his name.

John 20: 30-31 NIV

The first sign, water to wine, foreshadows (points to) the eighth and final sign.

This second sign of the seven. when Jesus heals a royal official's son.

This second, seventh hour sign, was a long-distance miracle that happened within a stones throw of the first. By s

Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea. he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death. "Unless you (people) see signs and wonders (miracles)," Jesus told him, "you will never (not) believe."

John 4: 46-48 NIV

BYSTANDER JOHN & THE RABBI FROM NAZARETH The royal official said, "Sir, (ku'rios) come down before my child dies." "Go," Jesus replied, "your son will live (I promise!)." The man took Jesus at his word (believed) and departed for home (Capernaum).

John 4: 49-50 NIV

He walked home by faith not by sight.



While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, "Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him." Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, "Your son will be live." So he and his whole household (family) believed. John 4: 51-53 NIV

Walking (living) by faith is not walking by hope or wishful thinking, it's living every day as if Jesus is who he claimed to be. What is the reason Christianity changed the world?

A new command: Love one another "As I" have loved, "so you" must love

"By this everyone will know..." Ambassadors of a unique brand of love Then Jesus told him (Thomas), "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed." ... But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing (by faith in Jesus) you may have life in his name.

John 20: 29 & 31 NIV

BYSTANDER JOHN & THE RABBI FROM NAZARETH It's not enough to just read the stories.

At some point you have to hear the music (believe).

