43—54. ST. JOHN.   
   
   
 ye will not believe. 49 The nobleman saith unto him,   
 Sir, come down ere my child die. 5 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. 5! And as he was now going down, his servants   
 met him, and told him, saying, Thy ¢ son liveth. 52 Then   
 enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend.   
 And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour   
 the fever left him. 5 So the father knew that it was at   
 the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy   
 son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.   
 544 This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he   
 was come out of Judea into Galilee.   
   
   
   
   
 b render, spake. © render, child.   
 4 +ender, This again, a second miracle, did Jesus.   
   
 and wonders heard of, but required to see they indicated. We may observe the   
 them—for in this case the expression would difference between our Lord’s dealing here   
 certainly have been fuller, “ see with your and in the case of the centurion (Matt.   
 eyes,” or something similar ;—and it would viii, 6 ff. and parallel places). There,   
 not accord with our Lord’s known low es- when from humility the man requests Him   
 timate of all mere miracle-faith, to find to speak the word only, He offers to go to   
 Him making so weighty a difference be- his house: here, when pressed to go down,   
 tween faith from miracles seen and faith He speaks the word only. Thus (as Trench   
 from miracles heard. The words imply the observes, after Chrysostom) the weak faith   
 contrast between the Samaritans, who be- of the nobleman is strengthened, while the   
 lieved because of His word, and the Jews humility of the centurion is honoured.   
 (the plural reckoning the nobleman among 51.] He appears (see below) to have gone   
 them), who would not believe but through leisurely away—for the hour (1 P.a.) was   
 signs and prodigies :—see 1 Cor.i.22. And early enough to reach Capernaum the same   
 observe also that it is not implied even evening (twenty-five miles)—in confidence   
 when they had seen signs and wonders, they that an amendment was taking place, which   
 would believe:—they required these as a he at present understood to be only a gra-   
 condition of their faith, but even these dual one. 52, 53. the fever left him]   
 were rejected by them: see ch. xii. 37. This was probably more than he expected   
 But even with such inadequate conceptions to hear ; and the coincidence of so sudden   
 and conditions of faith, our Lord receives a recovery with the time at which Jesus   
 the nobleman, and works the sign rather had spoken the words to him raises his   
 than dismiss him. It was otherwise in faith at length into a full belief of the   
 Matt. xvi. 1 ff. 49,] Here is the same Power and Goodness and the Messiahship of   
 weakness of faith as there,—but our Lord’s Him, who had by a word commanded the   
 last words have made visible impression. disease, and it had obeyed. The word be-   
 It is like the Syrophcenician woman’s re- lieved, absolutely, implies that in the   
 joinder,—‘ Yea, Lord; but... ,’ only the fullest he and all his disciples   
 faith is of a far less kind than hers. of Jesus. It is very different from “be-   
 He seems to believe it necessary that lieved the word that Jesus spake” in ver.   
 should be on the spot ;—not that there 50—as believing on Hrat must be always   
 was any thing strange or blameable in this, different from believing on any thing else   
 for Martha and Mary did the same, ch. xi. in the world, be it even His own word or   
 21, 32:—and to think that it would be His own ordinances. The cure took place   
 too late when his child had expired ;—not, in the afternoon: the nobleman probably   
 imagining that He to whom he spoke could set out, as indeed the narrative implies,   
 raise the dead. 50.] The bringing immediately on hearing our Lord’s assu-   
 out and strengthening of the man’s fui rance, and spent the night on the way.   
 by these words was almost as great a spiri 54.] The meaning of the Evangelist   
 tnal miracle, as the material one which clearly is, this was the second Gali-   
 Vou. I. Lu