

Encountering Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of Luke (4-22-18)

JESUS' APOSTOLIC MINISTRY

(Luke 4:31-44)

I. JESUS, THE SENT ONE

- A. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, but He grew up in Nazareth, in the region of Galilee.
- B. Luke 3 – Jesus had gone to the southern region and was baptized. He had displayed his power in some miracles at some point after that. Luke 4 – Jesus now returns to Galilee, the Northern region.
- C. Jesus eventually gets to His hometown of Nazareth. This was Jesus' first time back since the Baptism and declaration of His Sonship from heaven and the wilderness testing.
¹⁸ "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." (Luke 4:18-19; c.f. Isa. 61:1-2)
- D. Jesus moves on from Nazareth to Capernaum. It becomes His Missions base for the rest of His ministry in Galilee. It's the hometown of Simon Peter. One estimate is that there were about 175 towns and villages in the region of Galilee with a population of 200,000. Fishing was an important business and wheat was a major commodity of the region.
- E. Why does Jesus go down to Capernaum? In order to fulfill the prophesy of Isaiah 9.
¹⁴ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ¹⁵ "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: ¹⁶ The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." (Matthew 4:14-16)
 - 1. Common theme: People want His power and blessing, but they do not want His message. Jesus purposefully tries people with parables, hard-sayings, and claims of His Lordship to keep people from getting comfortable with His blessing and power. He goes to the core of their deepest need: sin has separated them from God and Jesus has come to declare the Gospel of the Kingdom and make a way for God's enemies to enter in as full citizens.

II. A DAY IN THE LIFE OF JESUS (LUKE 4:31-44)

- A. 4 snapshots of a day with Jesus.
 - 1. Jesus is teaching at the synagogue in Capernaum. The people are astonished at His teaching with authority. Jesus casts out an unclean spirit at the synagogue.

2. Jesus heals Simon Peter's mother in law at his house. It was Peter and Andrew's house.
3. In the evening, the crowd gathers at Peter's house and Jesus heals and casts out demons.
4. The next morning, Jesus goes to a deserted place, but a crowd finds Him to try to keep Him from leaving them.

III. THE APOSTOLIC MISSION

- A. To reach all 175 towns and villages of Galilee (population: 200,000), Jesus would have not stayed in one place for more than a few days. He was constantly on the move. By the end of Jesus' ministry, all 200,000 would have met Jesus or met someone who had.

Matt. 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.
- B. Jesus reveals His mission. This is Jesus' Apostolic mission. This is why He has been sent by the Father.

Luke 4:43 but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because FOR THIS PURPOSE I HAVE BEEN SENT."
- C. There is one Apostolic mission that Jesus, the Great Apostle was sent for. Holy Spirit is restoring this understanding to the church that Jesus is building.
 1. Apostolic is not about being a great leader, overseeing a region, or the release of healing and deliverance. These things are all important to the Apostolic work that Jesus started.

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Matt. 24:18-20)
- D. When this mission is completed, then the end will come. Jesus will return.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Matt. 24:14)

 1. In Luke 9, Jesus sends out 6 teams of 2. In Luke 10, Jesus sends out 45 teams of 2.
 2. Currently we have 2 teams going out regularly in Dublin.
 3. There is a restoration of understanding the mission of Jesus and joining Him there. This is the root of the Apostolic ministry.

Q: Have you receive the Great Commission as a personal mandate from heaven to you? Make disciples of all nations. Where disciples are made, churches are formed. Churches send out disciples to form more churches.