

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why is the hometown crowd the one most difficult to “please?” What can we do to reduce this problem today?
2. Why did the second part of Jesus’ message enrage His hearers? What was the basic wrong in their hearts?
3. Was it presumptuous for Jesus to “announce” himself as the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy? Why not? Does History support Jesus’ position? Discuss.
4. Why cannot Jesus do miracles where there is no faith? Surely nothing is impossible with God. (Mark 6:5)

SUMMARY:

“Familiarity breeds contempt” was never so true as at the synagogue on this Sabbath morning when Jesus had the difficult task of ushering in a new spiritual era for mankind, and in the one place in the world where it would be the hardest to do - His hometown.

But Jesus never faltered, never held back for lack of courage and conviction. His own people needed to hear the good news, but they rejected it and others reaped blessings meant to be theirs. He plainly revealed to them their unbelief, their rejection of His divine calling. As He later told the religious people of Jerusalem the harsh fact that “it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem,” so He told the people of His hometown that because of the hardness of their hearts in rejecting Him, they would likewise not realize God’s blessings given to the faithful in this new era of grace.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #6

November 9, 2003

Fourth Quarter

JESUS REJECTED AT NAZARETH

LESSON TEXT: Luke 4:16-30

LESSON SETTING: Synagogue in Nazareth

TIME: Approximately 27 A.D.

I. GOD’S WORD READ. Luke 4:16-20

- A. Announcement of Fulfillments of Isaiah’s Prophecy. Isaiah 61:1-2
- B. Jesus Anointed with Spirit of God (vs. 18)
 1. to preach (vs. 18-19) Matthew 4:17
 2. to heal (vs. 18) John 5:20-21
 3. to open blind eyes (vs. 18) Matthew 5:8; John 9:6-7
 4. to release the captives (vs. 18) Luke 8:36-37

II. GOD’S WORD TAUGHT. Luke 4:21-27

- A. Initial Response
 1. all bare witness (vs. 22) Matthew 4:23-24
 2. wondered at gracious words (vs. 22) Matthew 13:54; 15:31
 3. remarked about who He was (vs. 22)

III. GOD’S SON REJECTED. Luke 4:28-30

- A. They “thrust Him out” (vs. 29) John 8:59; 10:31; 11:53
- B. “He went His way” (vs. 30) John 10:39-40
- C. “They knew not the day of their visitation” Luke 19:41-44

GOLDEN TEXT: A PROPHET IS NOT WITHOUT HONOUR, BUT IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, AND AMONG HIS OWN KIND, AND IN HIS OWN HOUSE.

Mark 6:4

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Luke 5:1-11

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Exodus 3:1-10; Isaiah 6:1-12;
Jeremiah 1:1-10

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ the Son of Man

TOPIC: JESUS CALLS FOUR DISCIPLES

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus could have taught in a more sophisticated manner, but he chose not to. Yet he taught as one having power and authority. Sitting down in a fishing boat hardly seems becoming to one who was to teach about the glories of heaven. Yet it was among these people that the gospel message was most readily received.

Although Christ was the Son of God, He was also the Son of man. Although He was from heaven above, He lived a lowly life so that He could see and understand all the needs of people. And so, in turn, people could relate to Him.

A closer look at the teachings of Jesus shows that His authority was in His message. His power was from God and demonstrated in miracles. Living as a humble man, He had the knowledge of what people need, and being from the Father in Heaven, He knows and has the power to fulfill those needs.

CENTRAL TRUTH: The more we learn to trust Jesus, the better followers we will become.

GOLDEN TEXT: AND WHEN THEY HAD BROUGHT THEIR SHIPS TO LAND, THEY FORSOOK ALL, AND FOLLOWED HIM. Luke 5:11

The fantastic experience these fishermen had with Jesus showed them how futile and powerless they were compared to Him. The draught of fishes they caught was only because of their submission and obedience to the Master. So impressed were they by Christ's understanding and help that they were willing to leave all they had to completely follow Christ in a new and different life.

While Christ was on earth, His disciples physically followed Him. Of course, they had to leave their old way of living. Since He is now ascended to heaven, we cannot physically follow Him, but we must follow Him in spirit, and live our lives in this knowledge. This requires that we "forsake all" of our old life to follow Christ and live a new and different one. Most of us cannot leave our jobs, as the fishermen did, but we must leave behind "all that is in the world, the lusts of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life," and walk in the Spirit. (Romans 8:9)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 10 - 16

M. *Disciples Called. Luke 5:1-11

T. Leprosy Healed. Luke 5:12-17

W. Sins Forgiven. Luke 5:18-24

T. Levi's Call. Luke 5:27-32

F. Moses Saved. Exodus 3:1-10

S. Isaiah Called. Isaiah 6:1-12

S. Jeremiah Called. Jeremiah 1:1-10