

## Luke 4:16-30 **Jesus in Synagogue in Nazareth**

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

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." [Isaiah 61:1-2]

20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

22 So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

23 He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.'" 24 Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country.

25 But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; 26 but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.

27 And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

28 So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, 29 and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. 30 Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way. NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

✚ Jesus returned to His home town Nazareth, He taught in their synagogue. [Matthew 13:53-58, Mark 6:1-6, Luke 4:16-30]

✚ By this time Jesus has established a custom of teaching in the Synagogue on the Sabbath. [Luke 4:16]

✧ Jesus came to Nazareth, His home town, went into the Synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read. [Luke 4:16]

✧ He was handed the book of Isaiah, He opened the book and when He found the place, He read: [Luke 4:17]

"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;  
To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." [Isaiah 61:1-2, Luke 4:18-19]

- ✧ Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "**Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.**" [Luke 4:20-21]
- ✧ All bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "**Is this not Joseph's son?**" [Luke 4:22]
- ✧ They were astonished at His teaching, because they knew Him and His family who lived in their town. [Matthew 13:53-56, Mark 6:2]
- ✧ They knew Him to be "**the carpenter's son.**" [Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3]
- ✧ It was there that He had grown up and increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. [Luke 2:51-52]
- ✧ Still they asked, "Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? Where did He get all these things?" [Matthew 13:54, 56, Mark 6:2]
- ✧ They were offended at Him. [Matthew 13:57, Mark 6:3]
- ✚ Jesus did indeed have a mother named Mary, and brothers named James, Joses, Judas, and Simon, and sisters as well. [Matthew 13:55-56, Mark 6:3]
  - ✧ Familiarity breeds contempt, when it becomes obvious that God has given you wisdom and powers beyond that of your siblings or those familiar with your childhood.
- ✚ Straight teaching that reveals the lack of believing faith on the part of the hearer quickly reveals inner resentment against the speaker toward whom the hearer feels equal or superior.
  - ✧ He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.' " Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, **no prophet is accepted in his own country.**" [Luke 4:23-24]
  - ✧ But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. [Luke 4:25-26]
  - ✧ And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." [Luke 4:27]

(In both of these examples, Jesus demonstrated that when the time of testing came for the people of Israel who had fallen into deep sin, God helped foreigners of other lands and did not help the Children of Israel, His own people, (The widow of Zarephath is in Lebanon, and Naaman is from Syria).
- ✧ Jesus made a statement of fact that still manifests itself today: "**A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house.**" [Matthew 13:57, Mark 6:4]
- ✧ Being near by to Capernaum, the people in Nazareth had certainly heard of the things Jesus did in Capernaum where He had been staying at the house of Simon Peter.
- ✧ This human resentment is still obvious, with families and people who knew your childhood and youth, if you gain more knowledge of God and His word than they.
- ✧ It doesn't matter that you put many times more effort into seeking the truth in His Word than they, still they resent the resulting level of knowledge you have gained as the Holy Spirit has opened your mind in understanding of the Holy Word.

- ✚ So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way. [\[Luke 4:28-30\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus could not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief. [\[Matthew 13:58, Mark 6:5\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus marveled at their unbelief. [\[Mark 6:6\]](#)
  - ✧ With all the evidence demonstrated by Jesus' teachings, miracles, and reputation, it is difficult to comprehend why people would not rejoice and welcome him in His home town because a son of their village was so exalted by God.
  - ✧ However they demonstrate the resentment, jealousy, and rejection that is so common when confronted with one whom God is using in so mighty a way.
- ✚ How often we fail to see mighty miracles around us today because of our resentment toward the messenger and unbelief of his message.
- ✚ Jesus left and went about the villages of Galilee teaching. [\[Mark 6:6, Luke 4:30\]](#)