

Jesus--Luke 4:16-30; 5:1-11

Jesus is Rejected in His Hometown; Miraculous Catch of Fish

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Isaiah 61:1-2
2. Matthew 13:54-58
3. 1 Kings 17:9; 18:1
4. 2 Kings 5:1-14
5. Matthew 7:28-19

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Christ.

III. Summary.

Jesus enters the synagogue at Nazareth and was asked to read the Scriptures. He read from Isaiah 61, rolled up the scroll, and announced that He was the fulfillment of that prophecy. Everyone was amazed at the words of Jesus because he was just JOSEPH'S SON to them. A carpenter's son would not be expected to teach as He did. Jesus understood the reason for their surprise and stated it for them, concluding: NO PROPHET IS ACCEPTED IN HIS OWN COUNTRY. Jesus then illustrates His point by referring them to Old Testament history regarding two of the great prophets: Elijah and Elisha. The response of the people of Nazareth was a violent one and Jesus had to pass through the midst of them, miraculously, in order to avoid being thrown off the mountain.

At this time, great multitudes were following Jesus and crowd control, as always, is a difficult matter. Jesus creatively took the matter into His own hands by stepping into a boat and separating Himself from the crowd with a little water before continuing with His teaching.

When He had finished speaking, He told Peter to go out into the deep water to catch some fish. Peter informed the Lord that they had been fishing all night and had caught nothing (as if He did not know that). Yet Peter was willing to do what the Lord told him. The catch of fish is one that these fishermen would likely talk about for many years to come. They nearly sank their boats hauling in all of the fish. It seems that Jesus used this occasion to relate their work with FISH to the work they later would do with MEN.

IV. Outline.

1. Jesus reads from the Scriptures at the in Nazareth (Luke 4:16-20).
2. Jesus announces the fulfillment of the prophecy He had read (4:21).
3. The response of the people to Jesus is explained to them by Jesus (4:22-27).
4. The people are angered at the teaching of Jesus and attempt to throw Him off a mountain (4:28-29).
5. Jesus miraculously escapes death (4:30).
6. Jesus separates Himself from the crowd in order to do more teaching (5:1-3).
7. Jesus asks for a fishing trip and supplies an enormous catch (5:4-7).
8. Peter makes a statement of astonishment at the catch (5:8-10).
9. Jesus issues to them the challenge of fishing for men (5:11).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ After the fishing trip, Peter, James, and John forsook all to follow Jesus.
02. _____ When Jesus read in the synagogue He was reading from Moses.
03. _____ Jesus sometimes taught the people from the sitting position.
04. _____ Elisha healed all the lepers in Israel.
05. _____ The boat from which Jesus taught belonged to Simon Peter

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ In which city had Jesus performed more miracles: (a) Nazareth; (b) Capernaum.
07. _____ What was Jesus sent to preach to the captives: (a) patience; (b) sustenance; (c) deliverance.
08. _____ What caused Peter to say, "I am a sinful man": (a) he committed a sin; (b) he had a guilty conscience; (c) he saw the miracle Jesus had performed of providing a massive catch of fish.
09. _____ Which of the following words is used to describe the words of Jesus in this reading: (a) wonderful; (b) powerful; (c) gracious.
10. _____ The response of the people at Nazareth to the teaching of Jesus was that they were filled with: (a) astonishment; (b) love; (c) wrath.

Fill in the Blanks

11. 2 Kings ____:14... "Then went he down, and _____ himself seven times in _____, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was _____."
12. Jesus told the people of Nazareth that many widows were in Israel during the days of _____.
13. Peter told Jesus, "_____, we have toiled all _____ and have taken nothing."
14. _____ 13:54... "And when he was come into his own _____, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, _____ hath this man this _____, and these mighty works?"
15. "_____ not, from henceforth thou shalt _____."

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be given on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-30... [01--False, John 3:2; 02--True, Lk 3:19; 03--False, Jn 3:23; 04--False, they had to look upon it, Num 21:9; 05--True; 06--Herod, Lk 3:19; 07--Nicodemus, Jn 3:9; 08--John the Baptizer, Jn 3:29; 09--The one who does not believe on the Son; 10--Jesus and His disciples, Jn 3:22; 11--18, begat, word; 12--21, serpent, pole; 13--increase, decrease, Jn 3:30; 14--born, again, Jn 3:3; 15--evil, Jn 3:20.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read** (Luke 4:16). Most people believe that the synagogues began to be developed during the period of Babylonian Captivity, when the children of Israel were not able to go to Jerusalem for worship. This was a place of assembly or coming together where the Scripture was read, songs were sung, and teaching was done. Often it is stated that wherever there were 10 Jewish families there would be enough finances to sustain and maintain a synagogue. For an interesting article on the synagogue, see *Easton's Bible Dictionary*. The striking thing about this verse is that we learn

something about the CUSTOM of Jesus. This verse is telling us that it was customary or the ordinary thing for Jesus to be found in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Under the Law of Christ we are taught that the place we ought to be on the FIRST day of the week is at the assembly place of the saints (Acts 20:7; cf., Heb 10:25).

2. **...he found the place where it was written...** (Luke 4:17). This seems to have been a deliberate selection of Jesus and He could have turned to many other texts on that great scroll of Isaiah that also would have their fulfillment in Him. First on the list of items considered the work of the Messiah is TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. Preaching the gospel is not rated very highly in the minds of most people of our day, but it needs to have a much greater priority than it does. For us to open up the text of God's completed written revelation and study and apply its teachings to our lives is one of the most important things we could possibly do with our time. Our lord was not too busy to do this very thing, neither should we be!
3. **...Is not this Joseph's son?...** (Luke 4:22). It was a very difficult matter for the neighbors of Jesus to understand just who He was. After all, they knew Joseph and Mary, having daily contact with them in their ordinary day-to-day existence in the village of Nazareth. There are multitudes of people today who try to make Jesus something other than that which He is—THE VERY SON OF GOD! Muslims will admit He was a prophet. Jehovah's Witnesses will only acknowledge Him as a created being, etc. The "familiarity" of the Nazareth residents had caused them to close their minds and fail to search for truth about Jesus. There are many other reasons that people today have for the same failure. We need to try to create interest (thirst) in their hearts by being the "salt of the earth" (Mt 5:13).
4. **...many widows were in Israel...** (Luke 4:25). Jesus begins a discussion the purpose of which is to provide explanation as to why He did not perform many miracles in Nazareth. He knew that all of these people would count Elijah and Elisha as two of the greatest prophets who ever lived. However, these men did not go around using miraculous signs frivolously.
5. **...led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong** (Luke 4:29). This very strong reaction of the natives of Nazareth is quite a drastic step. Here we see Jesus suffering for the preaching of the truth and those who come along after Him really can expect to be treated no better than our Master was. Some will be very strongly aroused against the message of truth we have to give to them.
6. **...as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God...** (Luke 5:1). In very strong contrast to the reception of His teaching at Nazareth, others were willing to listen to His teaching and even to the extent that it was physically confining. Jesus desired to teach the people, but needed some space freely to do so. His ingenuous plan was to get into a boat and teach the crowd on the shore from the boat. It is the case that so many need to hear the saving message that those who do wish to hear must be accommodated and those who refuse to hear must be put on the waiting list or refused (Mt 7:6).
7. **...nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net** (Luke 5:5). Peter, never a quiet one, had to let the Lord in on some knowledge about how he had spent this night (as if Jesus did not know), but we have to admire the second part of his statement. AT THY WORD I WILL... This needs to be the sentiment of heart of each disciple of the Lord. We must have the authority of Jesus for all that we do (Col 3:17). We need the same confidence that must have developed within Peter, James, and John after this miracle. If it is according to the Lord's will, then we OUGHT to do it and not question it!

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q A Z X S W E D F E A R C V F R T G B Y
 H N U J M I T K L O P P D O L G R E A T
 I K M J U H Y H N T G E B P V F R M E D
 C X S W G Q A Z X S N W E R D C V U F R
 R T G U B N Y H M O U J M E K I O L L P
 O L A I K U J M K N H Y T S T G B T R F
 V R R F V E D C C W S X W S Q A Z I X S
 D P A R T N E R S W S X C E D E R T F V
 B G T Y H B N B G T Y H N D B F R U E D
 C X W F I S H E R M E N S X C D E D R F
 C V B T G Y H N M J U I K F I S H E S I
 K A O L U F J M N H Y T G B V F R E D C
 W S T X C D I E R F V B T G Y H N U J M
 K I O C P L I L H J G F D V S B N M K L
 P O U Y H H F V L E D C V T W S S I N K
 V B N M C R F V R E T G E Y H N M J U I
 O L Y N R D E E P R D N F V C D E D B N
 Y U U N M N Y G B N M B V C T H R U S T
 E A C V R T Y H N M J U I O L P M G B T
 L V B N M J T Y A S T O N I S H E D R F

[The words listed below come from the description of the miracle Jesus performed while He sat in Peter's boat. See if you can find them all above.]

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|---------------|----------------|
| 01. pressed | 02. ships |
| 03. fisherman | 04. nets |
| 05. thrust | 06. launch |
| 07. deep | 08. draught |
| 09. great | 10. multitude |
| 11. fishes | 12. beckoned |
| 13. partners | 14. filled |
| 15. beckoned | 16. astonished |
| 17. fear | 18. catch |