

Luke 4:20-30

1. The response to Jesus' first sermon.
 - a. Jesus declares himself to be the fulfillment of Isaiah 58 and 61.
 - i. **Verse 21**
 - b. There is excitement over Jesus' proclamation.
 - i. The citizens of Nazareth are floored by Jesus' teaching.
 - ii. "Isn't this Joseph's son?"
 1. This is not an attack on Jesus but an expression of wonder that they should know the Messiah.
2. Jesus' prophecy concerning his hometown.
 - a. Jesus utters a prophecy against the people of Nazareth concerning their salvation.
 - i. The prophecy has two parts:
 1. "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician heal yourself.'"
 - a. Jesus looks forward 3 years to the crucifixion.
 - i. **Matthew 27:42**
 2. A demand by the people to perform the same miraculous signs he will later do now in Nazareth.
 - a. Jesus has not yet traveled to Capernaum.
 - b. Jesus has not yet begun to perform signs and wonders.
 - i. **Luke 4:14-15**
 3. Jesus declares that the people of Nazareth have rejected him.
 - a. This is curious because verse 22 makes it plain that they were excited about his message.
 4. Jesus describes the nature of his ministry.
 - a. Jesus draws upon two stories from the Old Testament to describe what his ministry will be like.
 - i. Elijah and the Widow (**1 Kings 17:8-24**)
 1. God sends Elijah to the land of Sidon to wait out the drought.
 2. God uses Elijah's exile to save the life of the widow and her son as well as bring them to salvation.
 - a. **1 Kings 17:24**

ii. Elisha and Naaman the Aramean (**2 Kings 5:1-14**)

1. God used Elisha to bring about healing to Naaman, an enemy commander.
2. Naaman expected an extraordinary religious ritual and balked at Elisha's simple command.
3. Naaman comes to faith in God because of this event.

a. 1 Kings 5:17-19

5. The interpretation of Jesus' explanation.

a. Why did the Jews become so enraged at Jesus' words?

i. The Jews had accepted a Jesus in their hearts that had nothing to do with the real Jesus.

1. Have we accepted a fake Jesus into our hearts and lives or have we accepted the real, living, vibrant Christ?

ii. Jesus was declaring that the benefits of the Messianic Age would not fall upon them but upon their enemies.

1. While God was saving a Phoenician widow and an Aramean general, Jewish widows and lepers were dying.

b. How would we respond to statement that God would not shower His Revival on us but on our enemies?

c. Because they have not accepted him they will see their enemies experience the year of the Lord's favor.

- i. All of the blessings and freedom that Jesus declared from Isaiah will not fall to them but to those they have rejected.

6. Conclusion:

a. Have we accepted the real Jesus or have we set up an idol in our own image?

b. Have we let bigotry, elitism, and arrogance prevent us from carrying forth the Gospel message?

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- i. The Jews had accepted a Jesus in their hearts that had nothing to do with the _____.

1. Have we accepted a _____ into our hearts and lives or have we accepted the real, living, vibrant _____?

- ii. Jesus was declaring that the benefits of the Messianic Age would not fall upon them but upon their _____.

1. While God was saving a Phoenician widow and an Aramean general, Jewish widows and lepers were _____.

b. How would we respond to statement that God would not shower His _____ on us but on our _____?

- i. Because they have not accepted him they will see their enemies experience the _____.

- ii. All of the blessings and freedom that Jesus declared from Isaiah will not fall to them but to those they have _____.

6. Conclusion:

a. Have we accepted the real Jesus or have we set up an _____ in our own image?

b. Have we let _____, _____, and _____ prevent us from carrying forth the Gospel message?