

LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR HAS
COME, WEEK 23

TITLE: BACK HOME

TEXT: LUKE 4:14-21

INTRODUCTION: (1) THROUGH THE FIRST 30 YEARS OF HIS LIFE, JESUS LIVED IN OBSCURITY, PRIMARILY IN A SMALL TOWN IN GALILEE CALLED NAZARETH.

* THE EXCEPTION WOULD BE HIS BIRTH IN **BETHLEHEM AND JOSEPH AND MARY'S FLEEING** TO EGYPT FOR SAFETY TO PROTECT JESUS FROM HEROD UNTIL HE DIED.

** NOW DURING THOSE YEARS, WE HAVE THE BIRTH NARRATIVE OF JESUS, THE VISIT OF THE MAGI – THE WISE MEN WITH THE SMALL CHILD **JESUS, AGAIN THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT, CHRIST'S** VISIT TO JERUSALEM AND HIS DIALOGUE WITH THE TEACHERS IN THE TEMPLE WHEN HE WAS 12.

*** AND APART FROM THAT, NOTHING IS KNOWN ABOUT HIS CHILDHOOD YEARS EXCEPT FOR THE GENERAL STATEMENT IN LUKE 2:52 THAT HE **“KEPT INCREASING IN WISDOM, AND STATURE, AND IN FAVOR WITH GOD AND MEN.”**

*** **AND THAT'S WHY THE FIRST 30 YEARS OF** THE LIFE OF JESUS ARE CALLED THE SILENT YEARS. **WE DON'T KNOW A LOT ABOUT HIM** DURING THIS TIME PERIOD.

(2) NOW CHRONOLOGICALLY, THE NEXT **RECORDED EVENT IN JESUS' LIFE WAS HIS** APPEARANCE AT THE JORDAN RIVER TO BE BAPTIZED BY JOHN THE BAPTIZER.

* AND THEN AFTER HIS BAPTISM, JESUS AT THE DIRECTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, SPENT 40 DAYS IN THE WILDERNESS AND IN JERUSALEM BEING TEMPTED BY THE DEVIL, WHICH I TOOK 4 SUNDAYS TO COVER.

** NOW ALL OF THE EVENTS THAT HAPPENED IN **JESUS' LIFE UP TO THIS POINT IN LUKE'S GOSPEL** ARE RECORDED BY LUKE FOR ONE PRIMARY PURPOSE, **TO ESTABLISH JESUS CHRIST'S** MESSIANIC CREDENTIALS, THAT HE WAS THE PROMISED MESSIAH, THE REDEEMER, THE SAVIOR, THE SON OF GOD, THE SON OF MAN, GOD THE SON.

*** AND WHAT CREDENTIALS AND TESTIMONIES WERE GIVEN UP TO THIS TIME IN LUKE IN OUR STUDY UP TO THIS POINT?

**** WELL, THE TESTIMONY OF GABRIEL, THE ANGELS WHOM APPEARED TO THE SHEPHERDS, THE TESTIMONY OF ZACHARIAS, ELIZABETH, MARY, JOSEPH, SIMEON, ANA, JOHN THE BAPTIST, GOD THE FATHER AT HIS BAPTISM AND HIS ANOINTING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AT THAT EVENT.

(3) LUKE HAS BEEN BUILDING HIS CASE BRINGING OUT ONE WITNESS AFTER ANOTHER **TO TESTIFY TO ESTABLISH JESUS CHRIST'S** MESSIANIC CREDENTIALS.

* AND NOW THE TIME HAS COME FOR JESUS TO STEP ON THE STAGE OF HIS FULL PUBLIC MINISTRY THAT THE SPOTLIGHT WILL SHINE ON HIS MINISTRY, SERVICE AND PURPOSE.

** WITH THAT SAID, THE INTRODUCTORY SCENE **IN LUKE'S ACCOUNT OF JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY** TAKES PLACE IN GALILEE AND MOST OF IT IN HIS HOMETOWN OF NAZARETH. THUS JESUS WENT BACK HOME.

*** NOW NORMALLY WHEN YOU GO BACK HOME, **IT'S A GOOD THING. YOU SEE PEOPLE YOU** WENT TO SCHOOL WITH, YOU SEE FRIENDS, AND FAMILY AND GO BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY, NORMALLY GOOD THINGS.

**** HOWEVER, FOR JESUS, IT STARTED OUT GOOD, BUT WOULD END WITH THE JEWS FROM HIS SYNAGOGUE DRIVING HIM OUT OF THE CITY, AND LEADING HIM TO THE BROW OF THE HILL THE CITY HAD BEEN BUILT ON AND ATTEMPTING TO THROW JESUS DOWN THE CLIFF.

(4) NOT WHAT YOU WOULD CALL RED CARPET TREATMENT OR A NICE WELCOME HOME PARTY.

* BUT TO BEGIN WITH, IT WAS ALL GOOD, PEOPLE WERE SPEAKING WELL OF HIM AND HE **PREACHES A FANTASTIC MESSAGE, WHAT WE'LL COVER TODAY.**

** **BUT NEXT SUNDAY, WE'LL SEE THAT JESUS WEARS OUT HIS WELCOME AS PEOPLE START TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HE REALLY WAS SAYING IN HIS HOMETOWN.**

*** **AND SIMPLY FOR TODAY, I'VE TITLED OUR STUDY IN GOD'S WORD, "BACK HOME" AS JESUS GOES HOME TO NAZARETH.**

****** AND WE'LL LOOK AT 4 POINTS IN OUR EXAMINATION OF LUKE 4:14-21.**

(5) NO. 1 THE POWER **OF THE SPIRIT IN JESUS'** MINISTRY, VV. 14&15; NO. 2 THE PLACE WHERE JESUS READS FROM SCRIPTURE ABOUT HIMSELF, THE SYNAGOGUE AT NAZARETH, V. 16; NO. 3 THE PASSAGE THAT SPECIFICALLY HE READ FROM, VV. 17-20; AND NO. 4 THE PROCLAMATION JESUS WILL MAKE ABOUT HIMSELF IN V. 21.

* AND WITH THAT 4 POINT OUTLINE BEFORE US, **WE'LL BEGIN TODAY IN V. 14 LOOKING AT THE POWER OF JESUS. LOOK AT V. 14 PLEASE.**

I. THE POWER, (READ V. 14)

A. NOW LIKE A SMALL ENTRANCE DOOR THAT LEADS INTO A HUGE, A VAST ART GALLERY, VV. 14&15 ARE THE ENTRANCE DOORS TO A NEW SECTION OF PICTURES, OF PORTRAITS OF JESUS **CHRIST IN LUKE'S GOSPEL.**

* **THEY INTRODUCE CHRIST'S PUBLIC MINISTRY** IN GALILEE WHICH WAS IN THE NORTHERN PART OF ISRAEL, WHICH JESUS WOULD BE INVOLVED IN FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF.

** YET UNDERSTAND, BETWEEN VERSES 13, THE **END OF CHRIST'S TEMPTATIONS IN THE WILDERNESS**, AND V. 14, JESUS RETURNING TO GALILEE, THERE IS A GAP OF ABOUT 1 YEAR ACCORDING TO WILLIAM MCDONALD IN HIS ONE VOLUME COMMENTARY OF THE BIBLE, (WHICH BY THE WAY I RECOMMEND AND IS IN OUR BOOKSTORE IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A GOOD ONE VOLUME COMMENTARY OF THE BIBLE.)

*** NOW DURING THIS 1 YEAR MINISTRY BY OUR LORD BETWEEN VERSES 13&14, JESUS MINISTERED IN JUDEA TALKED ABOUT IN **JOHN'S GOSPEL IN CHAPTERS 2-5.**

**** NOW CHRONOLOGICALLY AS JESUS **RETURNS TO GALILEE TO BEGIN HIS 2'D YEAR OF** MINISTRY, HIS FAME SPREAD THROUGH ALL THE SURROUNDING REGION OF GALILEE OF THE WORKS HE DID IN JUDEA.

1. SO THE BUZZ ABOUT JESUS AND WHAT HE DID IN DOING MIRACLES AND HIS TEACHING AND PREACHING WAS SPREADING THROUGHOUT ALL THE COUNTRYSIDE OF GALILEE WITH ITS 240 CITIES AND VILLAGES IN IT, ACCORDING TO JOSEPHUS THE JEWISH HISTORIAN.

* AND NOTE ONE LAST THING BEFORE I MOVE ON TO V. 15 THAT IS A KEY AND A PART OF THE **REASON THAT JESUS' FAME WAS SPREADING** THROUGHOUT GALILEE.

** AND THAT IS, JESUS RETURNED TO GALILEE **"IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT."**

*** AND YOU SEE A CLEAR PATTERN IN THE FIRST 4 CHAPTERS OF LUKE OF HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT IS INVOLVED IN THE DIVINE SON OF **GOD'S LIFE.**

**** AND IT BEGINS IN LUKE 1:35 WHEN JESUS WAS **CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER IN MARY'S WOMB.**

2. IT CONTINUES IN LUKE 3:22 AS THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDS UPON JESUS IN BODILY FORM LIKE A DOVE AT HIS BAPTISM.

* IT CONTINUES IN LUKE 4:1 AS JESUS GOES OUT TO FACE THE DEVIL IN TEMPTATION AS JESUS WAS FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

** AND THEN HERE IN LUKE 4:14 AS JESUS RETURNS TO GALILEE, IT IS IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT, AND OF COURSE MUCH OF THAT MINISTRY IN GALILEE WILL BE TEACHING AND PREACHING IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT.

*** FOR IN V. 18 OF LUKE 4 IN OUR TEXT TODAY, JESUS WILL BE TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF AND WILL SAY, **"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL."**

3. AND THE CLEAR TRUTH IS, JESUS DID NOT OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY, SERVING BY HIS STRENGTH, TEACHING OR PREACHING IN HIS OWN STRENGTH, BUT HE WAS DEPENDENT, FILLED, EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, RELYING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT, DIRECTED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

* AND I WILL DEVELOP THIS MORE IN MY CONCLUSION TODAY IN APPLICATION, HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR US AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS TO BE LED, DIRECTED, FILLED AND WALKING IN THE SPIRIT TO EMPOWER, TO GLORIFY HIM AND OVERCOME TEMPTATION.

** WE CANNOT TRY TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OR MAKE DECISIONS INDEPENDENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE MUST BE DEPENDENT UPON HIM AS JESUS WAS.

*** WITH THAT SAID, LOOK AT V. 15 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 15. NOW THE PHRASE, "**JESUS** BEGAN TEACHING IN THE SYNAGOGUES OF **GALILEE**" COMMUNICATES THE PRIORITY AND **PATTERN OF THE LORD'S TEACHING** MINISTRY.

* **I MEAN TEACHING GOD'S WORD WAS A** PRIORITY FOR JESUS IN MINISTRY AND IN **LUKE'S GOSPEL JESUS IS CONTINUALLY** **PORTRAYED AS A TEACHER OF GOD'S TRUTH** AND IS FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO AS A TEACHER, WITH AT LEAST 23 REFERENCES IN **LUKE'S GOSPEL OF JESUS TEACHING OR** BEING CALLED A TEACHER.

** SO THE PATTERN IN GALILEE IS TEACHING IN THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUES AND HE WAS PRAISED BY ALL THOSE WHO LISTENED TO HIM INITIALLY. THAT WILL CHANGE, BUT INITIALLY THEY GLORIFIED HIM.

*** AND THE NUMEROUS SYNAGOGUES THAT EXISTED IN GALILEE PROVIDED A PERFECT **VENUE FOR JESUS' TEACHING.**

**** THE REASON BEING, THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF JEWISH MEN REQUIRED TO FORM A SYNAGOGUE WAS 10.

1. THEREFORE ALMOST ALL OF THE 240 VILLAGES AND CITIES IN GALILEE WOULD HAVE AT LEAST ONE SYNAGOGUE AND MANY OF THEM MORE THAN ONE, DOZENS IN SOME, AND IN JERUSALEM ACCORDING TO THE JEWISH TALMUD, 480 OF THEM IN RELIGIOUS CAPITALS OF JUDAISM.

* SO CHRIST TAUGHT WHERE THE JEWISH PEOPLE WERE AT, AS HE INITIALLY GOES TO HIS OWN PEOPLE.

** AND ONE SPECIFIC SYNAGOGUE THAT IS RECORDED THAT JESUS WENT TO WAS HIS HOMETOWN OF NAZARETH. LOOK AT V. 16 **PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR SECOND POINT** TODAY, THE PLACE.

II. THE PLACE, (READ V. 16)

A. NOW NAZARETH IN GALILEE WAS AN **INSIGNIFICANT PLACE IN JESUS' DAY**, A SMALL VILLAGE THAT HAD A POPULATION OF LESS THAN 400 AND A VILLAGE THAT WAS QUITE POOR.

* HOWEVER, WHAT MAKES IT SIGNIFICANT WAS IT WAS THE PLACE WHERE JESUS WAS BROUGHT UP, IT WAS HIS BOYHOOD TOWN, IN FACT IN SCORN THE TITLE WAS GIVEN TO HIM, **"JESUS OF NAZARETH."**

** WELL, AS HIS CUSTOM OR HABIT WAS, JESUS ENTERED TO WHAT WAS PROBABLY A SMALLER SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH AT NAZARETH.

*** AND IT APPEARS THAT THE TERM CUSTOM OR HABIT OF ATTENDING THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH WAS NOT JUST FOR NAZARETH, BUT WHEREVER JESUS WAS DURING HIS MINISTRY, HE WENT TO SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH ACCORDING TO LUKE 6:6, LUKE 13:10, MARK 1:21, MARK 3:1&2 AND MARK 6:2.

**** MY POINT BEING JESUS WAS FAITHFUL TO CORPORATE WORSHIP. IT WAS A PRIORITY AND THE APPLICATION IS, IS IT IN YOUR LIFE?

1. WELL, ON THIS PARTICULAR SABBATH, JESUS WAS CHOSEN TO READ FROM THE O.T. SCRIPTURES.

* AND OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE WORD OF GOD, SCRIPTURE WAS READ WITH THAT MAN STANDING, SO AS WAS CUSTOMARY JESUS STOOD UP TO READ BEFORE THE EXPOSITION OF THE TEXT, WHICH IN JEWISH CUSTOM, THE QUOTE SERMON FOLLOWED AFTER THE READER SAT DOWN, AND WOULD GIVE THE EXPOSITION OF THE TEXT SITTING, A COMMON JEWISH WAY OF TEACHING.

** AND THE SPECIFIC PASSAGE THAT JESUS WOULD READ FROM ON THAT DAY WAS ISAIAH. **LOOK AT V. 17 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO** SEE OUR THIRD POINT TODAY, THE PASSAGE.

III. THE PASSAGE, (READ V. 17)

A. NOW THE BOOK, LIT. THE SCROLL OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH WAS HANDED TO JESUS.

* AND HE OPENED THE SCROLL, LIT. HE UNROLLED THE SCROLL AND GOES TO A SPECIFIC PLACE IN ISAIAH THAT IS A MESSIANIC PROPHECY, A PROPHECY ABOUT THE CHRIST. AND SPECIFICALLY THIS PASSAGE WAS FROM ISAIAH 61:1&2 AND ISAIAH 58:6. AND WHAT DID IT SAY IN THIS PASSAGE? WELL, LOOK AT V. 18 OF OUR TEXT PLEASE.

B. READ V. 18. NOW AGAIN THE PASSAGE THAT JESUS IS READING FROM IS ISAIAH 58:6 AND ISAIAH 61:1&2.

* AND JESUS BEGINS WITH ISAIAH 61:1 WHERE IT SAYS THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, WHICH AGAIN REFLECTS HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL GUIDE AND LEAD THE MESSIAH, THE CHRIST OF GOD.

** IN FACT, THE HOLY SPIRIT WOULD ANOINT, SET APART THE MESSIAH TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO FOUR KINDS OF PEOPLE, 4 CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE IN NEED.

*** NO. 1 TO THE POOR; NO. 2 THE PRISONERS;
NO. 3 THE BLIND; AND NO. 4 TO THE
OPPRESSED.

**** NOW THE QUESTION COMES UP
IMMEDIATELY, IS JESUS SPEAKING LITERALLY
OR METAPHORICALLY?

1. WELL, THE POOR LIKE PRISONERS, LIKE THE
BLIND, AND LIKE THE OPPRESSED ARE NOT
ONLY THE UNFORTUNATE OF THIS WORLD, BUT
THOSE WHO HAVE SPECIAL NEED OF
DEPENDENCE ON GOD AS ALL PEOPLE DO IN THE
GOSPEL, IN THE MESSAGE OF SAVING GRACE.

* EVERYONE IS IN NEED OF SALVATION AND
FORGIVENESS WHETHER THEY SEE IT OR NOT,
WHETHER THEY BELIEVE IT OR NOT.

** AND SPIRITUALLY THERE IS GREAT NEED BY
ALL INCLUDING THE POOR, THE PRISONER, THE
BLIND, AND THE OPPRESSED.

*** AND IN TWO CHAPTERS LATER IN LUKE, IN LUKE 6:20&21 JESUS WILL SAY TO HIS DISCIPLES:

V. 20 - AND TURNING HIS GAZE TOWARD HIS DISCIPLES, **HE BEGAN TO SAY, "BLESSED ARE YOU WHO ARE POOR, FOR YOURS IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD.**

V. 21 - BLESSED ARE YOU WHO HUNGER NOW, FOR YOU SHALL BE SATISFIED. BLESSED ARE **YOU WHO WEEP NOW, FOR YOU SHALL LAUGH."**

**** NOW A COMPARISON WITH THIS TEXT AND THE BEATITUDES IN MATTHEW 5:1-10 REVEALS THAT JESUS WAS TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING MORE THAN MATERIAL POVERTY AND WEALTH, FOR THE POVERTY SPOKEN OF IN THESE TEXTS **REFERS PRIMARILY TO A SENSE OF ONE'S OWN SPIRITUAL IMPOVERISHMENT.**

2. IT SPEAKS OF MORE THAN HUNGER FOR FOOD, BUT A HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS AS SINNERS IN NEED OF A SAVIOR TO FORGIVE THEM.

* THEREFORE WE HAVE 4 METAPHORS USED IN SCRIPTURE TO DEPICT THE DESPERATE CONDITION OF NEEDY SINNERS WHOM NEED RESCUED, SAVED.

** AND THESE 4 METAPHORS DEPICT A LACK OF ANY RESOURCE TO SAVE THEM FROM THEIR DILEMMA.

*** AND YET THE RELIGIOUS AND SELF RIGHTEOUS IN THIS WORLD MAY THINK THEY HAVE NO NEED, THEY REALLY ARE POOR PRISONERS THAT ARE BLIND AND OPPRESSED.

**** AND BEYOND THAT, WE DO NOT SEE IN **LUKE'S GOSPEL IN THE MINISTRY OF** CHRIST A LITERAL FREEING OF PRISONERS FROM PRISON BY JESUS. I MEAN EVEN JOHN THE BAPTIZER WILL REMAIN LOCKED UP AND EXECUTED.

3. HENCE THE POOR ARE THE SPIRITUAL BANKRUPT, THE SPIRITUALLY DESTITUTE, WHO SEE THEIR MORAL BANKRUPTCY.

* THE PRISONERS ARE PRISONERS OF SIN, THE BLIND ARE THE SPIRITUALLY BLIND, AND OPPRESSED ARE THE SPIRITUALLY OPPRESSED, OVERWHELMED BY PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE WEARYING WEIGHT OF SIN. AND MANY TIMES THE POOR, THE PRISONER, THE BLIND, AND THE OPPRESSED SEE THAT VERY CLEARLY.

** HOWEVER, SALVATION IS THE CONTEXT, SO FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO SEE THIS NEED BY THE GRACE OF GOD, THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD HAS COME! THE DAY OF SALVATION HAS COME!

*** **LOOK AT V. 19 PLEASE WHERE I'LL EXPLAIN** THE MEANING OF THAT PHRASE.

C. READ V. 19. NOW THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD WAS THE SEASON, THE YEAR, THE **TIME OF THE LORD'S FAVOR, OF THE LORD'S** GRACE IN SALVATION.

* IT IS TO SAY THE DAY OF SALVATION HAD COME, THE YEAR OF REDEMPTION.

** LET ME EXPLAIN. JESUS STOPS IN THE MIDDLE OF ISAIAH 61:2, HE STOPS WITH THE **PHRASE "TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD,"** FOR THE LAST PART OF ISAIAH 61:2 SAYS: **"AND THE DAY OF VENGEANCE OF OUR GOD, TO COMFORT ALL WHO MOURN."**

*** NOW WHY DOES JESUS STOP AND NOT **COMMUNICATE THE DAY OF GOD'S VENGEANCE?**

**** WELL, THAT PART OF THE VERSE TALKS **ABOUT THE 2'D COMING OF CHRIST,** HIS SECOND ADVENT WHEN GOD WILL POUR OUT HIS WRATH ON THE EARTH WITH THE TRIBULATION, THE **TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE, A TIME OF GOD DEALING WITH SIN.**

1. BUT THE FAVORABLE YEAR OR TIME OF THE LORD IS TALKING ABOUT SALVATION, WHICH **COMES AS A RESULT OF CHRIST'S FIRST COMING TO THE EARTH.**

* AND IN ESSENCE, THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD IN THE O.T. WAS THE YEAR OF JUBILEE, EVERY 50TH YEAR.

** AND EVERY FIFTIETH WAS A SPECIAL YEAR OF CELEBRATION IN ISRAEL CALLED THE YEAR OF JUBILEE.

** AND THE YEAR OF JUBILEE WAS A YEAR OF AMNESTY WHEN SLAVES WERE SET FREE, IT WAS A YEAR OF REDEMPTION, WHEN DEBTORS WERE RELEASED FROM THEIR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS.

*** AND IT WAS A YEAR OF RESTORATION, WHEN LOST PROPERTY WAS RETURNED TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNERS.

**** AND WHAT ISAIAH 61:1&2A PROPHESED ABOUT WAS WHEN THE MESSIAH CAME, IN HIS FIRST ADVENT, THERE WOULD BE A JUBILEE TO END ALL JUBILEES.

2. FOR WHEN THE MESSIAH WOULD COME, THERE WOULD BE REDEMPTION, FORGIVENESS, RESTORATION AND PEOPLE BEING SET FREE BY THE REDEEMER, THEIR MESSIAH.

* THUS THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF NAZARETH, WOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT JESUS WAS SPEAKING OF THE GREAT DAY OF SALVATION, THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD, A TIME OF GREAT JUBILEE! WHAT A JOY TO HEAR THIS.

** NOW WHAT DID JESUS DO WHEN HE FINISHED READING THE PASSAGE? WELL V. 20 TELLS US. LOOK AT V. 20 PLEASE.

D. READ V. 20. NOW STOPPING HIS READING IN THE MIDDLE OF ISAIAH 61:2, JESUS CLOSED THE BOOK, ROLLED UP THE SCROLL, GAVE IT BACK TO THE ATTENDANT WHO HANDLED THE SCROLLS IN THE SYNAGOGUE AND SAT DOWN.

* AND IN THE ORDER OF JEWISH WORSHIP IN THE SYNAGOGUE, WHAT FOLLOWED THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURES WAS THE SERMON, WHICH WOULD BE PREACHED SITTING DOWN.

** THEREFORE ALL EYES WERE FIXED ON THEIR HOMETOWN BOY FOR THE EXPLANATION, THE EXPOSITION, THE MEANING OF THE TEXT.

*** ALL EYES ARE ON JESUS AS HE IS ABOUT TO PREACH. WHAT WILL HE SAY? WELL THE PROCLAMATION OF THE SERMON WAS VERY VERY SHORT, PROBABLY THE SHORTEST SERMON THEY EVER HEARD.

**** **LOOK AT V. 21 PLEASE, WHERE WE'LL SEE** OUR 4TH AND LAST POINT TODAY, THE PROCLAMATION.

IV. THE PROCLAMATION, (READ V. 21)

A. NOW IN THE ENGLISH TEXT OF MY BIBLE, **CHRIST'S PROCLAMATION, HIS SERMON WAS** 9 WORDS, OTHER TRANSLATIONS 8 WORDS, 9 WORDS IN THE GREEK TEXT. A VERY SHORT SERMON. (SOME OF YOU ARE POSSIBLY THINKING, I WISH RAY COULD CUT HIS DOWN TO 9 WORDS!)

* HOWEVER, JESUS CAN SAY MORE IN 9 WORDS THAN I CAN SAY WITH 900 WORDS.

** AND HIS SERMON WAS SHOCKING, UNPRECEDENTED AND UNEXPECTED.

*** FOR BEFORE JESUS, OTHER PREACHERS WOULD COMMUNICATE THAT THIS TEXT SPOKE **OF A FUTURE FULFILLMENT OF ISAIAH'S** PROPHECY, THAT THE MESSIAH WAS COMING.

**** BUT JESUS TOLD THE GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE SYNAGOGUE OF NAZARETH THAT DAY THAT THEY WERE WITNESSING ITS FULFILLMENT BEFORE THEIR EYES.

1. BELOVED, A KEY WORD IN THIS SHORT SERMON IS TODAY!

* SALVATION WAS SITTING IN THEIR CONGREGATION. SALVATION HAD JUST READ A TEXT ABOUT HIMSELF IN ISAIAH 61:1&2.

** SALVATION HAD COME. THEIR MESSIAH WAS WITH THEM, THE MESSIANIC ERA HAD BEGUN.

*** JESUS, A MAN THAT GREW UP IN THAT VERY VILLAGE, WAS THEIR MESSIAH. TODAY THIS SCRIPTURE ABOUT YOUR MESSIAH HAS BEEN FULFILLED IN THE SOUND OF YOUR EARS BY THE PERSON WHO JUST READ YOU THIS TEXT, THE SAVIOR, CHRIST THE LORD!

**** JESUS DECLARED THAT HE WAS THEIR MESSIAH. JESUS WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF **ISAIAH'S PROPHECY.**

IN WRAP UP AND IN APPLICATION: (1) WHAT GOOD NEWS! THE SAVIOR HAD COME. THIS IS THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JESUS IN ALL ITS SAVING AND LIBERATING POWER.

* AND THE REFORMATION OF SOCIETY CAN ONLY COME THROUGH THIS SAVING GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

** THE QUESTION TODAY IS DO YOU BELIEVE THIS GOSPEL? HAS IT LIFTED YOU UP FROM THE POVERTY OF YOUR SOUL? HAS IT RELEASED YOU FROM THE CAPTIVITY OF SIN? HAS IT OPENED YOUR SPIRITUAL BLIND EYES? HAVE YOU BEEN SET FREE FROM THE OPPRESSION OF SIN?

*** IF NOT, TURN IN REPENTANCE TO JESUS CHRIST TO BELIEVE ON HIM, AS YOUR SAVIOR AND LORD. SALVATION HAS COME. THE DAY OF **GOD'S VENGEANCE** IS COMING FOR THOSE WITHOUT JESUS. TURN TO HIM TODAY.

**** BELIEVER TWO QUICK APPLICATIONS FOR YOU. NO. 1 IN A DAY WHEN CORPORATE WORSHIP IS DOWNPLAYED AND DEVALUED AND EVEN DISCOURAGED, JESUS PLACED HIS DIVINE APPROVAL OF PUBLIC CORPORATE WORSHIP OF GOD.

2. **JESUS'** CUSTOM, HIS HABIT, HIS PRIORITY WAS GOING TO CORPORATE WORSHIP. IS IT YOURS?

*** IS ASSEMBLING WITH CHRIST'S CHURCH A PRIORITY FOR YOU? QUOTE HEBREWS 10:25.**

**** IF IT'S NOT YOU ARE BEING DISOBEDIENT AND STUNTING YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH. PLEASE MAKE IT A PRIORITY.**

*** NO. 2, BEING FILLED, LED, EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ESSENTIAL FOR US TO LIVE A VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIFE.

**** JESUS ALSO MODELED THAT FOR US CLEARLY. WE MUST WALK IN THE SPIRIT SO THAT WE DO NOT GIVE INTO THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH.

3. WE MUST BE EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO TEACH, PREACH AND WITNESS.

* AND WE MUST BE FILLED, CONTROLLED BY THE SPIRIT FOR THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT TO BE MADE MANIFEST IN OUR LIVES.

** **DON'T TRY TO GO IT ALONE**, BE CONSCIOUS AND YIELD TO THE HOLY SPIRIT AS OUR SAVIOR DID, TO BRING GLORY TO GOD IN OUR LIVES, OUR **PURPOSE FOR LIVING. (LET'S PRAY)**