



EPISODE 5

Nazareth: You can't go home again.

Luke 4-5; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1, Mark 16, Matthew 28:16-20, John 21
Feb 15/16

I. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry

a. Matthew 4:12-17

¹² Now when [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶ the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,

and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned."

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

b. Jesus **Defined his Mission.**

i. **First, He called people to Repentance.**

ii. **He cast His Vision--** "The Kingdom of Heaven / Kingdom of God"

1. **The kingdom of Heaven is Christ's vision for the world as it should be.**

2. God's kingdom is the new Reality that exists where and when God is King...when He is enthusiastically Exalted and followed—
everywhere and in everything.

II. Building a Team: Calling the Disciples (Matthew 4:18-22)

a. ¹⁸ While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.

¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

III. Galilean Ministry

- a. **Preaching all** throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom – declaring “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
- b. **Ministering to Great Crowds** - healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

IV. Nazareth and Conflict

- a. Went Home to Nazareth to preach in the Synagogue.
- b. The Reading for the Day (Isaiah 4:18-19): The Mission of the Messiah (from Isaiah [vs. 4:18-19].
*18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*
- c. Jesus’ Audacious Claim
 - i. *21 And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”*
 - ii. The MISSION OF THE MESSIAH was HIS MISSION.
- d. Jesus’ Provocative Declaration “**Physician – Heal thyself**” – Bring this healing and Using the examples of two prophets—he issued a prophetic declaration about the Mission of God. Something they did not want to accept.
 - i. *...a great famine came over all the land, Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath [a pagan gentile foreigner], in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. (v. 25-26, from I Kings 17:1-24)*
 - ii. *...And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian [another pagan gentile foreigner].” (v. 27, from II Kings 5:1-14)*
 - iii. The messiah will go to the gentiles. [Gentiles—Outsiders]
- e. The Rejection
 - i. *...all in the synagogue were filled with wrath (v. 28)*

Epilogue: One Last Homecoming

- A. Mark 14:28 “After I am risen up, I will go before you to Galilee.”
- B. Mark 16:6-7 “He is Risen,...go tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”
- C. Declaration
- D. Summons