

Galilean Ministry

Early Days

Jesus Arrives in Galilee

Matthew 4:17

Mark 1:14, 15

Luke 4:14, 15

John 4:43-45

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Texts:

Matthew 4:17, From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near.” NIV

Mark 1:14, 15,

14. Now after John was delivered up, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,

15. and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe in the gospel. NIV

Luke 4:14, 15,

14. Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

15. He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. NIV

John 4:43-45,

43. After the two days He went forth from there into Galilee.

44. (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him.

45. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast for they also had been there. NIV

Commentary:

Nature of the Galilean Ministry

Matthew 4:17, From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” NIV

I. Jesus now began to preach, “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

A. This is similar to what John the Baptist preached.

B. Matthew 3:2, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” NIV

C. Repentance was a prime need of that generation as well as a present need of this generation.

D. Moffatt translated this verse, “Repent, the reign of heaven is near.”

E. Even though Jesus had been preaching for a year before this, the disciples refer to this as the beginning of Jesus’ well-known ministry.

1. Acts 10:37-38, That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. NIV

Mark 1:14, 15, Now after John was delivered up, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe in the gospel. NIV

I. After John was arrested.

A. John was arrested by Herod for condemning the King for marrying his brother's wife Herodias.

1. Mark 6:17, For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. NIV

B. Evil and good are diametrically opposed to each other and are locked in battle to the death.

II. Jesus went to Galilee.

A. Galilee was the area in which Jesus had grown up.

1. Nazareth was one of the cities in Galilee, along with Capernaum, Naphtali, Kadesh, Chorazin, Bethsaida, Jotapata, Cana and Nain.

B. Matthew 4:12-17, Now when he heard that John was delivered up, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying, The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, beyond

the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles. The people that sat in darkness saw a great light, And to them that sat in the region and shadow of death, To them did light spring up. From that time began Jesus to preach, and to say, Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. NIV

III. The gospel of God.

A. Acts 10:36, 37, The word which he sent unto the children of Israel, preaching good tidings of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all) you, yourselves, know the things that happen throughout all Judaea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; NIV

B. Jesus preached the “gospel of God,” not man’s gospel.

IV. The fulfillment of prophesy/fullness of time.

A. The seventy weeks (taking each “day” as a year equals 490 years) of Daniel had passed and the Messiah was expected. Daniel 9:24-27.

V. The kingdom of God was at hand.

A. The church.

B. The age of grace.

1. John 1:17, For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. NIV

2. Acts 20:24, 32, But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might

finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. NIV

3. Romans 3:24, Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: NIV

4. Romans 4:16, Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, NIV

5. Romans 5:2-21, By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy

in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement. Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. NIV

6. Romans 6:14-15, For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. NIV

What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. NIV

7. Romans 11:16, If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches. NIV

8. 1 Corinthians 1:4, I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. NIV

9. 1 Corinthians 15:10, But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. NIV

10. Galatians 1:6, I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— NIV

11. Galatians 2:21, I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!" NIV

12. Galatians 5:4, You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. NIV

13. Ephesians 1:6-7, to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace NIV

14. Ephesians 2:5-8, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have

been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— NIV

15. Colossians 1:6, that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. NIV

16. Titus 2:11, For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. NIV

17. Titus 3:7, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. NIV

18. Hebrews 2:9, But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. NIV

19. 1 Peter 1:10, Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, NIV

C. How much better the world would be if the gospel of the kingdom were the rule of the world. This kingdom was not an earthly power designed to overthrow Rome and restore an earthly Jewish government.

VI. Repent and believe the gospel.

A. Hebrews 6:1, Wherefore leaving the doctrine of the first principles of Christ, let us press on unto perfection; not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God. NIV

B. Belief comes before repentance. Example: “Put on your shoes and socks.”

Luke 4:14, 15, Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. NIV

I. After his baptism and temptations in the wilderness,

A. Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee.

B. a fame went out concerning Jesus through all the region round about.

C. Jesus taught in the synagogues being glorified of all.

D. Jesus was enjoying a crest, wave of popularity, but people are fickle and the situation would soon change.

John 4:43, After two days He went forth from there into Galilee. NIV

I. After two days the Lord continued his journey on to Galilee.

II. What a wondrous difference Jesus' visit had made in the lives of those who lived in Sychar for both time and eternity!

III. However, many of the people in Galilee were very hostile to Jesus.

A. Luke 4:29, They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. NIV

B. Matthew 13:57, And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown and in his own house is a prophet without honor." NIV

C. Jesus indeed now found that he had far less honor in Galilee than in Judea or Sychar.

John 4:44, 45, (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast for they also had been there. NIV

I. "A prophet has no honor in his own country" was a well known proverb of that day.

A. Jesus had established his honor in Jerusalem and Judea and now returns to Galilee as a respected prophet.

B. John 4:48, "Unless you people see miraculous signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never believe." NIV

II. The Galileans received Jesus because many of them had seen his miracles in Jerusalem for they were present for the Passover also.

A. Many wonders had been performed in Judea and only one so far in Galilee, the turning of the water to wine in Cana.

1. John 4:54, This was the second miraculous sign that Jesus performed, having come from Judea to Galilee. NIV

B. John 2:23, Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name. NIV

C. John 3:2, He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.” NIV

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Early Days

Jesus Arrives in Galilee

Questions

1. Beginning at this time _____ began to _____, “ _____, for the _____ of _____ is _____.”
2. John preached the same thing. “ _____, for the _____ of _____ is _____.”
3. Moffatt translated this verse, “ _____, the _____ of _____ is _____.”
4. After _____ was _____ Jesus went to _____, the area in which he had _____, preaching the _____ of _____.
5. _____ was out of _____’s _____.
6. Daniel’s _____ (_____ years) had passed and the _____ came onto the scene as _____ prophesied.
7. Jesus exclaimed, “ _____ and _____ the _____.”
8. After his _____ and _____ in the

_____, _____ returned in the _____
_____ of the _____ into _____.

9. Jesus preached in the _____ and everyone
_____ him. The news of him spread through the
_____.

10. While Jesus was extremely popular with the multitudes, many of the
_____ in _____ were very _____
to Jesus.