

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.”

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.**

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.**

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.**

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.”

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.”

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.”

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.

I. After John was arrested.

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

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.

B. Galilee was out of Herod's jurisdiction.

C. 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.

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) – that saying ye yourselves know, which was published throughout all Judaea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;

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

IV. The fulfillment of prophecy/fullness of time.

A. The seventy weeks (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.

C. How much better the world would be if the gospel of the kingdom were the rule of the world.

D. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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."

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.

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."

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.
- 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.
- 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.”

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

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

Finished exam can be mailed or dropped off at:
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