

1. Jesus the Son
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3. Jesus the Son filled with the Spirit defeats Satan
4. Jesus the Son filled with the Spirit opens the Scriptures
5. Jesus the Son filled with the Spirit opens the Scriptures and proclaims Salvation

## 1. Jesus the Son

### a. God and Man - Luke > Jesus is BOTH Human and Divine SON

Angel's Message to Mother Mary: "You will be with child and give *birth to a son*, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called *the Son of the Most High*." Luke 1.31,32

ETERNAL Son of God BORN of a Woman > ANNOUNCED Not Explained  
DECLARED by Luke – NOT DEFENDED – Jesus Fully GOD and fully MAN

HUMANITY > HUMAN Family – Real Man: 75 Members of Family NAMED  
Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph...*the son of Adam, the son of God*. Luke 3.23,38

UNIQUENESS – 1000's Baptized by John --- ONLY 1 gets Heavenly Affirmation  
Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened...And a voice came from heaven: "*You are my Son*, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Luke  
3.21,22

### b. Lived as Man – see this clearly in Chapter 4

How did this THEOLOGICAL CONUNDRUM play out in Jesus Life & Ministry?

EARLY CHURCH HYMN – quoted by Paul in letter to Philippi  
Christ Jesus...Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Philippians 2.5-7

### SET ASIDE THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF DEITY

Son of God who lived as Man – BORN, LIVED, DIED as REAL Man – Fully Man

He went down to Nazareth with them (*Joseph and Mary*) and was obedient to them... And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Luke 2.51,52

Reaction in Synagogue in Nazareth – Seen him for 30 Years – Pleased by Good Son  
THEIR ‘HOMETOWN’ Boy – STARTLINGLY Good PREACHER!

v. 22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "*Isn't this Joseph's son?*" they asked. – **Statement of the OBVIOUS**

NEVER Saw his Talents – SURPRISED ‘something GOOD can come from Naz!’”

What they WERE NOT Doing --- Maybe like YOU --- LISTENING CAREFULLY

Sermon > Jesus CLAIMS to be NO ORDINARY MAN! – but was REAL MAN!

REAL Man like Prophets Elijah and Elisha > REJECTED in his HOMETOWN

Then JESUS repeats his Point with EMPHASIS on their Spiritual BLINDNESS

vs. 28,29 All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 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.

INSTEAD of STONING Him – Let Him SLAM HIMSELF against the STONES  
POINT – REAL Man – Daring to Speak for God – Deserves to be Killed

vs. 1,2 ...in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

MAN > Got HOT in Desert – HUNGRY in 40 Days – HIT HARD by the DEVIL

Adam – Sinless Man in Sinless World – Fell into Temptation in Perfect GARDEN

2<sup>nd</sup> Adam – Born into World of Sin – Faces Bold Attack of Satan in Barren Desert

Moment of INCREDIBLE Weakness and Hunger – Loneliness – EXPOSURE

Devil ATTACKS the Affirmation from FATHER given at BAPTISM

v. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God... v. 9 "If you are the Son of God...

NOT A CHALLENGE TO DIVINE ABILITY - but God's Concern

IF God REALLY CARES ABOUT YOU why doesn't He Take Care of You? **I will!**

ONLY Real Man is Vulnerable to: Physical, Social, Religious Temptations

c. Real Example – only as REAL MAN can He be Example for us to FOLLOW

Question – WWJD is Pointless if LIVED & OBEYED as God - or a SUPERman

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil-- Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Hebrews 2.14-18

RESISTED Temptation as MAN – v. 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'"

## 2. Jesus the Son filled with the Spirit

Luke > Jesus is MAN but NOT man ALL ALONE > Gospel of HOLY SPIRIT

CONTEXT of 1<sup>st</sup> Advent of Jesus > ENDS 400 Silent Years – No Word of Prophets

NO SPIRIT-Filled Messengers > Now SPIRIT comes like MIGHTY Rushing River

John...he will be *filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth* Luke 1.13,15

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was *filled with the Holy Spirit.* Luke 1.41

His father Zechariah was *filled with the Holy Spirit* and prophesied Luke 1.67

Simeon, who was righteous and devout...and *the Holy Spirit was upon him.* Luke 2.25

Angel to Mary: "*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God*" Luke 1.35

Jesus is THE CHRIST (Greek) or MESSIAH (Hebrew) ANOINTED ONE

...a Savior has been born to you; *he is Christ the Lord* Luke 2.11

...*the Holy Spirit descended on him* in bodily form like a dove. Luke 3:22

v. 1 *Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit*, returned from the Jordan and was *led by the Spirit* in the desert,

NO TEMPTATION FOR GOD - as a Real MAN - FULL OF SPIRIT

v. 14 Jesus returned to Galilee *in the power of the Spirit*

v. 18 "*The Spirit of the Lord is on me...*

Luke gets our ATTENTION: **HOLY SPIRIT is BACK!** Jesus the CHRIST Come!

The MAN Christ Jesus – Man FILLED with Spirit – Ministers in Power of Spirit

**DEITY displayed by Jesus in Earthly Ministry was DEITY of HOLY SPIRIT**

Peter preached in house of Cornelius / Summarized Earthly Ministry of Jesus:

*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power*, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. Acts 10.38

Doing Good & Healing > NOT because he IS GOD (He is!) > Spirit's POWER!

### 3. Jesus the Son filled with the Spirit defeats Satan

a. Claim – BAD Guy is a BIG THIEF!

vs. 5-7 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours."

SURPRISING what Jesus does NOT DO > Challenge Satan's Claim of Ownership

TRUE – Kingdoms of this World – ON LOAN to Satan from SOVEREIGN GOD

1<sup>st</sup> Father ADAM – SURRENDERED Right to RULE to the EVIL EMPIRE

The *god of this age* has blinded the minds of unbelievers 2 Corinthians 4.4

the ways of this world and of *the ruler of the kingdom of the air*, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient  
Ephesians 2.2

Now is the time for judgment on this world; now *the prince of this world* will be driven out.  
John 12.31

that ancient serpent called *the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray*. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him  
Revelation 12.9

Satan is NOT GOD or **a god** / CREATURE Not Creator / MAKES Nothing  
Only Takes God's GOOD CREATION and GIFTS and DISTORTS & Twists them

EVIL Prince USURPED the DOMAIN of God > ALLOWED by God > **WHY?**

1. PUNISHMENT for Sin / Consequence of FALL of our First FATHER Adam
  2. PLAN of God/ 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam bring New Kingdom – Sin Abounds, Grace Much More
- b. **Catch** – Satan is CLEVER – ALLURE with Real Human NEEDS

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been *tempted in every way, just as we are*—yet was without sin.  
Hebrews 4.15

1) Provision v. 2 He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

I find it VERY Difficult to FAST 2 X's Daily – btwn Bkfst / Lunch, Lunch/Dinner  
40 Days without FOOD is INCONCEIVABLE to Me! > People NEED to EAT!

Jesus NOT MASQUERADING as MAN > Full WEAKNESS of HUMANITY  
Jesus was in CRITICAL Condition > Closer to DEATH than any pt. except CROSS  
v. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

If Jesus was Son of God – how could he be STARVING? Is THIS God's BEST?

Satan got 1<sup>st</sup> PARENTS to EAT TASTY Looking FORBIDDEN Fruit in EDEN

They (*Israel in the wilderness*) soon forgot what he had done and did not wait for his counsel. In the desert they gave in to their craving; in the wasteland they put God to the test.  
Psalm 106.13,14

Satan was tempting him (as he often tempts us) to be impatient, to get ahead of God's timetable by meeting his own needs in his own way rather than waiting for God to provide...to use his power as God to alleviate his suffering as a man.  
Philip Ryken

Jesus did not have LONG ENOUGH SPOON to DINE with the DEVIL  
Made NO CHOICES from the MENU of HELL'S KITCHEN

"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."  
John 4.34

BELIEVE Father Cares for Our PHYSICAL Needs – Sex, Food, Clothes, Shelter,  
Life at this POINT was LOUSY for JESUS – Literally STARVING to DEATH!

But does NOT THINK God is Good ONLY WHEN Good Things HAPPEN to Him

2) Power - In BODY? or SPIRIT? > Taken to VANTAGE POINT to See ALL

vs. 5-7 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours."

Military Power – Royal Treasures – Works of Art – Cultural Achievements

Satan likely covered his HIDEOUS REALITY - Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.  
2 Corinthians 11.14

These ALL WOULD Eventually BELONG to Jesus > Why NOT NOW?

Promise of ANGEL to Mother Mary: "The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."  
Luke 1.32,33

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

Psalm 2.7,8

Satan plays 'BAIT & SWITCH' > YOU can have it BUT I will REALLY have it!

Jesus' POSSESSION would come by Acknowledging SATAN has ALL POWER

Instead JESUS would EARN Kingdom of World / NOT by CURTSY to Satan

but by CRUSHING his HEAD / Not WORSHIPPING Satan but WHIPPING him

CROWN would be GIVEN to Son thru OBEDIENCE on the CROSS

Will not BOW DOWN to Strong Man > BIND him then PLUNDER his House

v. 8 Jesus: "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

### 3) Protection

Satan detected area of WEAKNESS > 'this guy does everything by the Good Book'

USE Bible to MAKE Him FOLLOW Me – Possible to Make Bible Say Anything

Our teachers have taught, when the King, the Messiah, reveals himself, he will come and stand on the roof of the Temple. *Midrash of Jewish Traditions*

Satan offers NOT just STAND on Temple Roof – Do SWAN DIVE OFF Roof

vs. 9-11 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. For it is written: " 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

Not just Test for JESUS ALSO FATHER > Forcing Him to Save Daredevil Son

v. 12 Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

We are tempted to doubt the goodness of God's fatherly care and put our physical desires ahead of our obedience to God. Satan wants us to gratify ourselves with food, sex, and entertainment rather than make costly sacrifices of our time, money, and strength for the kingdom of God. What comforts are you giving up to advance

the gospel? What compromises with pleasure are sapping your holy strength to glorify God?  
Philip Ryken

c. Continuation - Jesus WON 1<sup>st</sup> 3 Rounds of FIGHT > but BATTLE goes ON...

v. 13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time

Being periodically harassed by the powers of darkness is a hallmark of all Christian leaders, churches, and causes... Jesus shows us the proper style of leadership is in self-giving surrender to God through personal integrity. Douglas Milne

Story NOT Primarily for MORAL Example > Drama in REDEMPTIVE History

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. 1 John 3.8

Jesus ACTING in OUR PLACE – 2<sup>nd</sup> ADAM – Faithful and FULL OBEDIENCE

Recover'd Paradise to all mankind,  
By one man's firm obedience fully tri'd  
Through all temptation, and the Tempter foil'd  
In all wiles, defeated and repuls't,  
And Eden rais'd in the Wilderness

John Milton, *Paradise Regained*

Slightly different order of 3 Tempting Encounters than in Matthew

Luke last Temptation in JERUSALEM > Focal Point of Gospel, FINAL BATTLE

#### 4. Jesus the Son filled with the Spirit opens the Scriptures

God's WORD CONFIRMED His SONSHIP at His BAPTISM

According to God's WORD he ENTERED the Desert to FACE Temptation

Jesus quotes DEUTERONOMY: Israel's 40 year Journey & Testing in Sinai DESERT

Jesus is TRUE ISRAEL – TRUE SON > OBEYS 40 Days of Hard TESTING

v. 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'"

vs. 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.

## FIRST AND FOREMOST A PREACHER OF THE GOSPEL

ABOUT ONE YEAR PASSED - between vs. 13 & vs. 14

Gospel Writers – Authors and Editors – Inspiration of HS > Arrange Events

Matthew > JEWS > New Law/Covenant – begins with Sermon on Mount

Mark > ROME > Jesus man of ACTION & AUTHORITY – Fast Paced Narrative

John > Son of God – New TEMPLE – Meet God > CLEARING of Temple ch 2

Dr. LUKE Physician: concern for Poor, Oppressed, Sick, Women / Savior of World

LENSE to see Gospel Story thru Sermon at Nazareth / text: Servant in Isaiah

**MANIFESTO > Sets Forth the KEY Theme of Life and Message of Jesus**

v. 16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, *as was his custom*.

If ANYONE could think “I don’t need to go to Church!” it was Son of God

Did not NEED to Hear BORING Sermons > But He was there EVERY WEEK!

**Synagogue Worship:** 1) SHEMA "Hear O Israel, the Lord is One"

2) Prayer 3) Reading from Pentateuch 4) Reading from Prophets

5) Sermon - SEATED 6) Benediction

5. Jesus the Son filled with Spirit opens the Scriptures and proclaims Salvation

a. Proclamation Text carefully chosen by Jesus > Isaiah chapters 61 & 58

SCROLL not Easy-Use-Bible > No TABS on Binding Marking the 66 Books

No Chapter and Verse Numbers on Pages – No Spaces between Hebrew Letters

vs. 18,19 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Defining Text: ANTICIPATED Moment in Israel > JUBILEE *year of Lord's favor*

NOT ref to Certain CALENDAR Year > ERA of Salvation – DAY of the Lord

Land Rights Restored – Slaves Freed – Debts Forgiven – Social Justice Restored

The same Holy Spirit who transforms people's spiritual lives also seeks to transform societies and nations to social justice... The church's social ministry should not be limited to charitable activities that merely bind up the wounds of society's victims. We should be actively engaged in shaping society to prevent such wounds.

Paul John Isaak

vs. 20,21 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

### ONE SENTENCE SERMON!

Do NOT Look BACK - Good Old Days of Israel's National Glory

Do NOT look FORWARD - Future of Coming Messianic Kingdom

TODAY - RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW – LOOK at ME!

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 1.20

"Kingdom of God is among you" > King Himself is Here – Kingdom has Come  
EVIDENCE - Out Pouring of Spirit – JESUS the Christ: MESSIAH is HERE!

Not in a future age but **now** is the captive power of sin to be broken, communion with God to be established, and the will of God to be done. William Manson

## b. Liberation WHAT EXACTLY was Jesus Promising?

Free Lunch? Health Care Reform? Amnesty for Prisoners? Establish Earthly Kingdom?

3<sup>rd</sup> Temptation > Jesus Refused Satan's Offer of HUMAN, EARTHLY KINGDOM

Prisoners? Blind? Poor? Spiritual or Material? --- Will Jesus touch my finances!?

In that culture, one's status in a community was not so much a function of economic realities, but depended on a number of elements, including education, gender, family heritage, religious purity, vocation, economics... 'poor' would serve as a cipher for those of low status... for Luke this diminished status is paramount.

Joel B. Green

If you are LOCKED OUT of System – POWERLESS in Society > you're POOR!

vs. 18,19 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

KEY Words: ME (Jesus), PROCLAIM (3 X's), RELEASE (Liberate, Free, Save)

RIGHT THERE in Naz. Synagogue: No Blind or Sick Cured, No Prisoner Freed

HEARD Jesus Preach Gospel > PROPHECY Fulfilled THEN > Salvation COME!

In saying GOSPEL of POOR > Mean was NOT for the RICH?

FOCUS on Poor > God's Concern for ALL > Poor often OPPRESSED, Overlooked

Sometimes POVERTY HUMBLER > Sometimes HARDENS Against God

GOSPEL is for ANY who REPENT – Humble Themselves – BELIEVE

2 Examples – Widow of Zarephath > POOR / Gen. Naaman of Syria > RICH

BOTH POOR Woman and RICH Man Receive MERCY and GRACE of God

The only way to such a future of brotherhood, justice, and peace is through personal acceptance of Jesus and his programme of righteousness and repentance. Because they ignore the gospel of Jesus all human utopias have always and will always fail. His kingdom alone can bring justice and joy. Douglas Milne

MINISTRY bring RADICAL REFORMATION like Prophets ELIJAH & ELISHA

c. Agitation LEAVING Jesus OUT of LIBERTY only leads to BONDAGE

LISTENERS Attitude of Many Congregations > God is for US & NO ONE ELSE!

ANGRY!! > Jesus is thinking of OTHERS – Not Just THEM

Jesus made HUGE CLAIMS about HIMSELF and HIS ABILITY to Change World

- 1) He was as POOR and NEEDY as any member of that Nazareth Synagogue
- 2) Cousin John the Baptizer was ROTTING in HEROD'S PRISON – Liberator?
- 3) Roman GRIP – Oppressive Taxes, Corrupt Soldiers – Not LOOSENED
- 4) How supposed to BELIEVE FANTASTIC Claims of KID they Saw Grow Up?
- 5) How can CHANGE World when if Cannot DO MIRACLE Here in Nazareth?

Congregation NOT EXCITED about what Good things happened ELSEWHERE

Were ENVIOUS about Miracles that happened in CAPERNAUM – Why THEM?

John the Apostle gives INSPIRED Commentary on this Event: He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. John 1.11

They did not believe him, that they admitted. But the fault was not theirs, but his, for not supplying adequate evidence... They had heard he had done marvelous things in Capernaum. But that was not enough; if he wanted them to believe his

claim, he would have to prove it true by doing many more works like that in his own home town.  
David Gooding

*What if there is a final judgment? What would you say to God?*

“Not enough evidence, Lord. Not enough evidence!”  
Bertrand Russell

#### d. Salvation

2 Examples > Zarephath and Syria BOTH OUTSIDE of Israel > God loves Gentiles

Widow used ALL SHE HAD to Prepare Meal for Prophet ELIJAH

General listened to ELISHA HUMBLLED self dipped 7 X's in Jordan was HEALED

They had to believe God's promise before they saw God's miracle...If they refused to believe, God would give his grace to those who would believe. Philip Ryken

God does NOT TAKE us HEAVEN then ask if we WANT to GO There  
Invited to BELIEVE in Christ HERE and NOW > PROMISES we're Saved Forever  
WALKING by FAITH > Salvation, Education, Relationships, Ministry, Retirement  
TRUST God's PROMISES to PROTECT Us and PROVIDE FOR Us

Jesus HIMSELF is the TRUE MESSAGE of Liberty

The gospel according to Jesus has implications for meeting people's physical needs...we are called to care for people's bodies as well as their souls...

Nevertheless, we need to make sure the main thing remains the main thing, and the main thing is to preach the gospel.  
Philip Ryken

Jesus: “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free...So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”  
John 8.32,36

STOPS ‘day of vengeance’ – How can you have LIBERATION w/out Judgment?  
John the Baptist looked for This > 1<sup>st</sup> Coming of Jesus > Mercy / 2<sup>nd</sup> > WRATH

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor **and the day of vengeance of our God...**  
Isaiah 61.1,2

Jesus HIMSELF will TAKE OUR Judgment – Our Punishment for Sin  
Tried to Kill Him as Baby – here in Hometown – 3 yrs later will SUCCEED!  
Jesus takes JUDGMENT of God in His FLESH – as Real Man – Horrible Death

When realize CAPTIVE of Sin > Worst ENEMY – SIN, SATAN, DEATH  
And FULLY REALIZE Jesus the Messiah has Saved you thru Cross, you'll Sing

My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth and followed thee...  
Charles Wesley *'And Can it Be?'*

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1Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, 2where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

3The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

4Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'"

5The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7So if you worship me, it will all be yours."

8Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

9The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here.

10For it is written:

" 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; 11they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

12Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

13When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

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

16He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. 17The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

18"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

20Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, 21and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

22All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

23Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.' "

24"I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the

region of Sidon. 27And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

28All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29They 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. 30But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.