

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

TITLE: A REVERSAL

TEXT: LUKE 4:22-30

INTRODUCTION: (1) IN WRESTLING, THERE IS A MOVE, A TERM CALLED A REVERSAL.

* IN THIS MOVE, A WRESTLER COMES OUT FROM BELOW HIS OPPONENT AND ACTUALLY GAINS CONTROL OF HIS OPPONENT.

**** IT'S A MANEUVER WHERE A COMPETITOR BEING CONTROLLED BY THEIR OPPONENT SUDDENLY REVERSES THE SITUATION AND GAINS CONTROL.**

***** IT'S A COMPLETE REVERSAL.**

**** NOW IN OUR EVERYDAY LANGUAGE, A REVERSAL IS A TURNAROUND, A SHIFT, A SWING, A CHANGE, A TURNABOUT, IT IS A CHANGE OF HEART.

(2) WELL, WITH A WRESTLING MOVE AND THOSE DEFINITIONS BEFORE US, IF THERE EVER WAS A **CLEAR ILLUSTRATION OF A REVERSAL, WE'LL** SEE IT TODAY IN OUR TEXT.

* FOR AS JESUS CHRIST RETURNS TO HIS HOMETOWN OF NAZARETH IN HIS GALILEAN MINISTRY, HE PREACHES IN THE SYNAGOGUE OF NAZARETH, AND CLEARLY COMMUNICATES THAT HE IS THE FULFILLMENT OF ISAIAH 61:1&2A, THAT HE IS THE MESSIAH, THE CHRIST, THE ANOINTED ONE OF GOD, THE SON OF GOD.

** AND THEIR INITIAL RESPONSE IS A POSITIVE REACTION. YET SHOCKINGLY, SHOWING THE FICKLENESS OF PEOPLE AND HOW SOMETIMES PEOPLE RESPOND POSITIVELY TO WHAT YOU SAY, THINK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS, AND THEN DO A 180.

*** WELL, WITH JESUS THE INITIAL RESPONSE TO WHAT HE SAID WAS VERY POSITIVE. HOWEVER THAT WOULD QUICKLY BE REVERSED AND THE PEOPLE THAT WERE SPEAKING WELL OF JESUS WOULD ATTEMPT TO KILL JESUS IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

**** I MEAN NO SABBATH HAD EVER BEGUN SO WONDROUSLY, AND NO SABBATH EVER ENDED SO TRAGICALLY WITH A QUICK REVERSAL.

(3) WHAT WENT WRONG? WHAT CHANGED THEIR VIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF JESUS SO QUICKLY AND RADICALLY?

* HOW COULD PEOPLE TURN THAT QUICKLY?
FROM V. 22 OF LUKE 4 SAYING "AND ALL WERE SPEAKING WELL OF HIM AND WONDERING AT THE GRACIOUS WORDS WHICH WERE FALLING FROM HIS LIPS."

** TO IN VV. 28&29, AND ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE SYNAGOGUE WERE FILLED WITH RAGE AS THEY HEARD THESE THINGS; AND THEY GOT UP (FROM THE SYNAGOGUE) AND DROVE HIM OUT OF THE CITY, AND LED HIM TO THE BROW OF THE HILL ON WHICH THEIR CITY HAD BEEN BUILT, IN ORDER TO THROW HIM DOWN THE CLIFF.

*** WHOA! THIS REVERSAL APPEARS TO BE UNBELIEVABLE, POSSIBLY WITHIN THE SAME HOUR OF BEING VIEWED AS WONDERFUL TO TERRIBLE, THERE WAS THAT QUICK OF A TURN, A TOTAL REVERSAL.

**** **WELL, BY GOD'S GRACE, I'LL ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN THIS RADICAL TURNABOUT AS WE WORK THROUGH LUKE 4:22-30, WHICH I'VE TITLED, "A REVERSAL."**

(4) AND UNDER THAT TITLE WE'LL LOOK AT 4
POINTS. NO. 1 THE RESPONSE OF THE
SYNAGOGUE PEOPLE TO CHRIST'S MESSAGE, V.
22; NO. 2 THE REPLY OF JESUS, VV. 23&24; NO. 3
THE REMINDER FROM TWO O.T. STORIES FROM
JESUS, VV. 25-27; AND NO. 4 THE REJECTION OF
JESUS, VV. 28-30.

*** SO WE'LL LOOK AT THE RESPONSE, THE REPLY,**
THE REMINDER, AND THE REJECTION UNDER
THE THEME OF REVERSAL.

**** AND WITH THAT OUTLINE AND THEME TO**
DIRECT US, LOOK AT V. 22 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL
SEE THE INITIAL RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE TO
JESUS.

I. THE RESPONSE, (READ V. 22)

A. NOW FROM LAST WEEK, WE LEARNED THAT JESUS COMMUNICATES THAT HE WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PROPHECY IN ISAIAH 61:1&2A AND ISAIAH 58:6 ABOUT THE MESSIAH, THAT THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD WAS UPON HIM AND THAT HE WAS ANOINTED TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR, THE BLIND, TO PRISONERS AND THOSE OPPRESSED AND TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.

* AND IN HIS SERMON THAT FOLLOWED HIS READING, HE CLEARLY COMMUNICATED THAT, THAT PROPHECY WAS FULFILLED IN THEIR HEARING THAT DAY, FOR HE WAS THE MESSIAH.

** NOW THE SERMON PART THAT LUKE RECORDS IS SHORT, AND IT COULD HAVE BEEN LONGER WITH LUKE NOT RECORDING EVERYTHING SAID, BUT THE MAIN TRUTH THAT JESUS WAS THE MESSIAH WAS CLEAR, AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT LUKE JUST RECORDED PART OF THE SERMON IS LIKELY.

*** FOR AS JOHN CONCLUDED IN HIS GOSPEL IN **JOHN 21:25, "AND THERE ARE ALSO MANY OTHER THINGS WHICH JESUS DID, WHICH IF THEY WERE WRITTEN IN DETAIL, I SUPPOSE THAT EVEN THE WORLD ITSELF WOULD NOT CONTAIN THE BOOKS THAT WOULD BE WRITTEN."**

**** NOW WITH THAT REALITY BEFORE US, WHAT THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT DAY IN THE SYNAGOGUE AT NAZARETH WAS MOVING.

1. THE PEOPLE WERE IN AWE OF JESUS **CHRIST'S UNMATCHED** SPEAKING ABILITY AND ORATORY. I MEAN AS MATTHEW 7:28&29 SAYS **AT THE END OF JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT,** THAT THE CROWDS WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, FOR HE TAUGHT WITH AUTHORITY.

* AND AS **JOHN 7:46 SAYS: "NEVER HAS A MAN SPOKE THE WAY THIS MAN SPEAKS."**

**** AND HERE IN LUKE 4:22, THE PEOPLE'S**
INITIAL EMOTIONAL RESPONSE WAS THEY WERE
SPEAKING WELL OF HIM AND WERE IN WONDER,
THEY MARVELED, THEY WERE AMAZED AT THE
GRACIOUS WORDS COMING OUT OF HIS MOUTH,
THE WORDS OF GRACE THAT HE WAS SPEAKING.

******* AND THE PEOPLE MUST HAVE BEEN
THINKING WOW, WHERE DID OUR HOMETOWN
BOY LEARN TO SPEAK LIKE THAT.

******** OTHERS PROBABLY COULD NOT RECONCILE
THE STUNNING POWER OF JESUS ORATORY
WITH THE REALITY THAT **THIS WAS JOSEPH'S**
SON, A CARPENTER, NOT A RABBI, NOT A
TEACHER.

2. AND SINCE HE WAS JOSEPH'S SON, A
HOMETOWN BOY, WHEN DID HE GO TO SCHOOL?
WHERE DID HE GET HIS DEGREE? WHERE DID HE
GET HIS AUTHORITY?

* AND NOW THEY START TO THINK, HOW COULD THIS MAN, WHOM WE HAVE KNOWN SINCE HE WAS A CHILD, POSSIBLY BE THE MESSIAH? THE WHEELS START TURNING.

** AND JESUS SEES WHERE THEY ARE GOING AND ANTICIPATES WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO SAY, OR SIMPLY READS THEIR MINDS AND GIVES **THEM A REPLY, LOOK AT V. 23 AS WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 2'DN POINT TODAY, THE REPLY.**

II. THE REPLY, (READ V. 23)

A. NOW A SPEAKER DOESN'T HAVE TO BE OMNISCIENT – ALL KNOWING LIKE JESUS WAS TO READ AN AUDIENCE, YOU CAN TELL A LOT BY BODY LANGUAGE, ATTENTIVENESS, FACIAL EXPRESSIONS AND GENERALLY KNOWING SOMEONE.

* AND I SAY THAT, BECAUSE IT WAS NOT NECESSARY FOR JESUS TO USE HIS OMNISCIENCE TO READ THESE JEWISH PEOPLE, HE GREW UP WITH THEM. HE KNEW HOW THEY THOUGHTS.

** SO EITHER IN ANTICIPATION OR OMNISCIENCE JESUS QUOTES THIS PROVERBIAL SAYING, PHYSICIAN HEAL YOURSELF.

*** AND UNDERSTAND IN THOSE DAYS, MEDICINE WAS A RATHER HAPHAZARD SCIENCE. AND PEOPLE LOOKED UPON DOCTORS WITH A FAIR AMOUNT OF SKEPTICISM.

1. THEREFORE WHEN DOCTORS PROPOSED A REMEDY, THEIR PATIENTS ASKED FOR SOME KIND OF REASSURANCE THAT IT WOULD ACTUALLY WORK.

* THUS, IF THE REMEDY SEEMED DOUBTFUL, (AS IT OFTEN DID) THE PATIENT WOULD SAY, **"PHYSICIAN HEAL YOURSELF!"**

** IN OTHER WORDS, BEFORE YOU TOUCH MY BODY OR MAKE ME DRINK SOMETHING NASTY, LET ME SEE YOU TRY IT FIRST, OR PROVE IT TO ME, PROVE YOUR CLAIMS THAT IT WILL WORK THAT I WILL GET WELL, OR BE HEALED.

*** WELL, JESUS PERCEIVES THAT THE PEOPLE IN HIS HOMETOWN WERE LOOKING AT HIM WITH THE SAME KIND OF SKEPTICISM THAT THEY WOULD WITH A DOCTOR OF THAT DAY, LIKE A QUACK.

**** **THEY KNEW HE WAS JOSEPH'S SON, BUT** THEY DID NOT BELIEVE THAT HE WAS THE CHRIST, THE MESSIAH AND THEY WANTED SOME KIND OF PROOF, PROVE IT JESUS!

2. THEREFORE, HOW DID THEY WANT HIM TO PROVE IT?

* WELL, JESUS KNOWS, HE ANTICIPATES, TO PERFORM SIGNS, TO DO MIRACLES, TO PERFORM WONDERS.

** AND IF YOU RECALL FROM LAST WEEK IN V. **14, THAT NEWS ABOUT JESUS' MINISTRY AND** WHAT HE WAS DOING WAS SPREADING ALL OVER GALILEE.

*** AND HERE IN V. 23 WE HAVE SOME INFORMATION TO ADD TO THAT, FOR APPARENTLY A PART OF WHAT WAS SPREADING THROUGHOUT GALILEE TOOK PLACE AT NEARBY CAPERNAUM, SPEAKING OF SIGNS, MIRACLES, HEALINGS, ETC.

**** THEREFORE JESUS IN ANTICIPATION TO THEIR RESPONSE IN KNOWING THAT THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN HIM AS THE MESSIAH, KNEW THEY WANTED PROOF.

3. FOR AS FAR AS THEY WERE CONCERNED, IF JESUS WANTED THEM TO BELIEVE, HE HAD TO PROVE IT, HE HAD TO SHOW THEM WHAT HE COULD DO. HIS PREACHING WAS NOT ENOUGH. WHATEVER HE DID IN CAPERNAUM, THEY WANTED DONE IN THEIR HOMETOWN.

* THEY WANTED MIRACLES ON DEMAND, IT WAS PUT UP OR SHUT UP FOR THEM, THEY HAD TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT.

** HENCE, IF JESUS WANTED THEM TO ACCEPT HIS CLAIMS TO BE THE MESSIAH, THEN LET HIM PERFORM THE SAME SIGNS THAT HAD REPORTEDLY BEEN DONE IN NEARBY CAPERNAUM.

** HOWEVER JESUS KNEW THE PROBLEM WAS NOT A LACK OF EVIDENCE, BUT HARDNESS OF HEART. THEY COULD NOT BELIEVE THEIR HOMETOWN BOY WAS THEIR MESSIAH. FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT, ALL EXPERTS ARE FROM OUT OF TOWN, THUS NO PROPHET IS WELCOME IN HIS HOMETOWN, LOOK AT V. 24 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 24. NOW JESUS COMMUNICATES A TRUISM IN HIS REPLY, A TRULY I SAY TO YOU, A VERILY I SAY TO YOU, AN ASSUREDLY I SAY TO YOU, AND I TELL YOU THE TRUTH STATEMENT, THUS IMPORTANT STATEMENT IN EMPHASIS THAT IS ACCEPTED AS A TRUISM IN YOUR DAY, **"NO PROPHET IS WELCOME IN HIS HOMETOWN."**

* MEANING, PEOPLE LOVE THEIR HOMETOWN HEROES, BUT NOT THEIR LOCAL PROPHETS. WHY? THEY KNEW US WAY BACK THEN, I KNEW YOU WHEN YOU WERE IN DIAPERS, FAMILIARITY BREEDS DISRESPECT AT TIMES.

** HENCE JESUS WAS SAYING GREAT PEOPLE ARE NOT APPRECIATED IN THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS, FOR IN HUMAN NATURE MANY TIMES, PEOPLE ARE MORE READY TO SEE GREATNESS IN STRANGERS THAN IN THOSE THEY KNOW WELL, ALL EXPERTS ARE FROM OUT OF TOWN.

*** THUS THEY WANTED SIGNS FROM JESUS, THE HOMETOWN BOY, AND HE WOULD NOT GIVE THEM. THEREFORE, JESUS HIMSELF STOOD IN THE LINE OF O.T. PROPHETS THAT WERE REJECTED BY THE JEWS ON DIFFERENT OCCASIONS.

**** IN FACT, JESUS WILL CITE TWO INCIDENTS IN THE O.T. THAT JEWISH PROPHETS DID NOT CATER TO JEWISH PEOPLE, BUT WENT TO GENTILES.

1. JESUS REMINDS THESE JEWS OF TWO O.T. PROPHETS WHO WERE NOT APPRECIATED IN ISRAEL AND EVEN WERE REJECTED IN A SENSE DURING A DARK TIME IN THE NATION. AND THE TWO PROPHETS WERE ELIJAH AND ELISHA.

* LOOK AT **V. 25 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO** SEE OUR THIRD POINT TODAY, THE REMINDER.

III. THE REMINDER, (READ V. 25)

A. NOW JESUS MAKES A BRILLIANT TRANSITION HERE, FOR HE IS SAYING IN EFFECT, SPEAKING OF UNWELCOMED PROPHETS, SPEAKING OF PROPHETS WHO DID NOT RECEIVE HONOR IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY, WHAT ABOUT ELIJAH AND ELISHA?

* AND FIRST OF ALL ELIJAH. AND ELIJAH **ANNOUNCED A DROUGHT AS GOD'S JUDGMENT** UPON ISRAEL AS BAAL WORSHIP WAS GROWING UNDER AHAB A WICKED KING.

** AND THE RESULT OF THE GREAT THREE AND A HALF YEAR DROUGHT WAS A GREAT FAMINE CAME OVER ALL THE LAND.

*** AND SEVERE CONDITIONS LIKE THAT ARE ESPECIALLY HARD ON THE POOR, ESPECIALLY WIDOWS.

**** YET DESPITE OF ALL THE WIDOWS IN ISRAEL IN THAT DAY, ELIJAH WAS SENT TO NONE OF THEM, FOR ELIJAH WAS SENT TO ZAREPATH IN THE LAND OF SIDON, A GENTILE NATION TO A GENTILE WIDOW.

1. AND THIS WAS NOT A STORY THAT THE JEWISH PEOPLE LIKED TO BE REMINDED ABOUT, IT WAS A DARK DAY IN ISRAEL.

* YET ELIJAH WAS SENT THERE TO A GENTILE, NOT TO A JEW. LOOK AT V. 26 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 26. NOW IT WAS BAD ENOUGH FROM A JEWISH PERSPECTIVE THAT ELIJAH MINISTERED TO A GENTILE DOG, A GENTILE WIDOW INSTEAD OF AN ISRAELITE.

* BUT HERE WAS THE KICKER. THE LAND OF SIDON WAS THE HOMELAND OF THE WICKED QUEEN JEZEBEL WHOM MARRIED AHAB ACCORDING TO I KINGS 16:31.

**** AND JESUS' REMINDER OF THIS STORY MUST**
HAVE SHOCKED AND OUTRAGED THE JEWS AND
ANGERED THEM THAT GOD WOULD BYPASS
JEWISH WIDOWS TO SAVE AN OUTCAST GENTILE
WIDOW IN SIDON OF ALL PLACES, WHOM SAW
HER POVERTY, HER BLINDNESS, HER BONDAGE
AND HER OPPRESSION IS THE LIKELY
IMPLICATION, AS JESUS CAME TO SAVE THOSE
KIND OF PEOPLE, NOT SELF-RIGHTEOUS
RELIGIOUS JEWS WHOM DIDN'T SEE THEIR NEED
OF A SAVIOR.

*** BUT JESUS WAS NOT THROUGH, HE WOULD
REMIND THEM OF ANOTHER O.T. ILLUSTRATION,
LOOK AT V. 27 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 27. NOW JESUS REMINDS THE JEWS
AT THE SYNAGOGUE OF NAZARETH ABOUT
ANOTHER FAMILIAR AND SOMEWHAT
DISTASTEFUL O.T. STORY.

* AND THIS ONE INVOLVED ELISHA, THE
SUCCESSOR AND PROTÉGÉ OF ELIJAH.

**** AND HERE'S THE STORY, THERE WERE MANY LEPERS IN ISRAEL IN ELISHA THE PROPHET'S DAYS, BUT NONE OF THE JEWISH LEPERS WERE CLEANSED OR HEALED, ONLY NAAMAN THE SYRIAN.**

*** NOW NAAMAN WAS NOT ONLY A GENTILE, A SYRIAN, BUT HE WAS ALSO AN ENEMY MILITARY COMMANDER ACCORDING TO II KINGS 5:1, A VICTORIOUS CAPTAIN OF THE ARMY OF THE KING OF ARAM WHOM THROUGH THE LORD HAD GIVEN VICTORY OVER ISRAEL.

**** AND IN TIME, NAAMAN HUMBLLED HIMSELF AND DID WHAT ELISHA TOLD HIM TO DO, TO DIP 7 TIMES IN THE JORDAN RIVER AND WAS CLEANSED OF THE DREADED DISEASE OF LEPROSY.

1. SO NAAMAN IS A GENTILE, A VICTORIOUS CAPTAIN OF AN ENEMY OF ISRAEL, AND A LEPER, ALL THINGS JEWS LOOKED DOWN ON.

*** AND JESUS' POINT IN USING THIS**
ILLUSTRATION WAS CLEAR, GOD BRINGS
SALVATION NOT TO THE PROUD, BUT TO THE
HUMBLE, THE POOR, THE PRISONER, THE BLIND
AND THE OPPRESSED, ILLUSTRATED BY THE
PROPHECY IN ISAIAH 61:1&2A, THAT THE
MESSIAH WAS SENT TO PREACH, THAT JESUS
WAS SENT TO PREACH.

** WELL, BY THIS TIME, THE JEWS LISTENING TO
JESUS IN THE SYNAGOGUE WERE READY TO
BLOW A VESSEL, TO STROKE OUT, THEY WERE
ENRAGED AND DO A COMPLETE REVERSAL AND
WANT TO KILL JESUS AS THEY REJECT HIM AS
THEIR MESSIAH.

*** WHICH LEADS US TO OUR LAST POINT
TODAY, THE REJECTION. LOOK AT V. 28 PLEASE.

IV. THE REJECTION, (READ V. 28)

A. NOW HERE IS WHERE THE REVERSAL BOILS OVER. FOR A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THIS IN THE SYNAGOGUE THEY WERE SPEAKING WELL OF JESUS AND WONDERING AT HIS GRACIOUS WORDS.

* NOW ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE SYNAGOGUE ARE FILLED WITH RAGE AS THEY SEE JESUS AS A FRAUD, AS THEY ARE FILLED WITH ANGER AND COMPLETELY REJECT JESUS THEIR HOMETOWN BOY AS THEIR MESSIAH.

** AND YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT BEGINNING IN V. 23, THE POT STARTS TO SIMMER, THEN BOIL, THEN THE RAGE IS OVERFLOWING AND RUNNING OVER BY THE TIME V. 28 ROLLS AROUND.

*** FOR THE WORD RAGE HERE LIT. MEANS INDIGNATION, WRATH, THE HEAT OF ANGER, BOILING OVER WITH ANGER, FOR IT SAYS THEY ARE FILLED WITH RAGE, THEIR RAGE IS RUNNING OVER AND IS OUT OF CONTROL.

**** FOR THEY BECOME AN OUT OF CONTROL LYNCH MOB WANTING TO KILL JESUS. THEY ARE SEETHING, THEY ARE ENRAGED. LOOK AT V. 29 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 29. NOW WHAT HAPPENS IS THESE JEWS IN THE SYNAGOGUE OF NAZARETH GET UP OUT OF THEIR SEATS AND THEY DRIVE JESUS OUT OF THE VILLAGE OF NAZARETH TO THE BROW OF THE HILL ON WHICH THEIR CITY HAD BEEN BUILT, AND THEIR PURPOSE WAS TO THROW HIM DOWN THE CLIFF, TO PUSH HIM OFF THE EDGE AND KILL HIM.

* I MEAN THEY DID NOT EVEN WAIT FOR THE BENEDICTION; THEY JUST GOT UP, MARCHED JESUS RIGHT OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUE AND TOWN AND TRIED TO KILL HIM. IT WAS TRUE MOB VIOLENCE.

** R.C. SPROUL SAID THESE PEOPLE WENT "FROM BEING IMPRESSED TO BEING INCENSED."

*** AND HOW CAN THAT HAPPEN SO QUICKLY? WELL, JUSTIFIED UNCONTROLLED ANGER CAN LEAD TO TERRIBLE RESULTS. FROM BEATING SOMEONE UP, TO SHOOTING OR STABBING SOMEONE, TO DOING SOMETHING UNIMAGINABLE.

**** THERE IS NO RATIONALIZING WITH UNCONTROLLED ANGER, ALL YOU GET IS BAD RESPONSES FROM SAYING THINGS YOU **SHOULDN'T SAY TO DOING UNSPEAKABLE THINGS.**

1. AND OF COURSE THE RATIONALE FOR THESE JEWISH PEOPLE IS THEY ARE KILLING A FALSE **PROPHET, THEY ARE DOING GOD'S WORK, AND OF COURSE THEY WERE DOING SATAN'S WORK** AS SATAN WAS ATTEMPTING AGAIN AS HE DID THROUGH HEROD, TO KILL JESUS. SO WAS HE SUCCESSFUL? WELL THE ANSWER IS IN V. 30. LOOK AT V. 30 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 30. NOW THE JEWISH PEOPLE USED BY SATAN WANTED TO KILL JESUS. AND WERE THEY SUCCESSFUL? NO. A MIRACLE TAKES **PLACE AS JESUS' TIME HAD NOT COME TO DIE,** FOR IT WOULD BE IN JERUSALEM ON A CROSS DYING FOR SINNERS.

* AND NO DOUBT MIRACULOUSLY JESUS PASSES THROUGH THEIR MIDST AND WENT ON HIS WAY IN HIS DIVINE TIMETABLE TO GO BACK TO CAPERNAUM, WHICH WE WILL LORD WILLING LOOK AT NEXT WEEK.

** **BUT CHRIST'S HOUR HAD NOT YET COME,** THEREFORE THE PEOPLE COULD NOT DO WHAT THEY WANTED TO DO, TO KILL JESUS.

*** AND THUS NO PROPHET WAS EVER DISHONORED LIKE JESUS, NOT ONLY IN HIS HOMETOWN, BUT ALSO IN THE VERY WORLD THAT HE HAD MADE, AND CERTAINLY ISAIAH 53:3 COMES TO MIND HERE WHICH SAYS, (QUOTE IT).

IN WRAP UP AND IN APPLICATION: (1) WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN THE TIDE OF WHAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT US TURNS AGAINST US, WHEN THE TIDE OF EVEN PUBLIC OPINION TURNS AGAINST US?

* I MEAN HAVE YOU BEEN ON ONE SIDE OF **PEOPLE'S FAVOR, ONLY TO FIND YOURSELF ON** THE OTHER BECAUSE OF SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED?

** HAVE FRIENDS TURNED AGAINST YOU, DONE A COMPLETE REVERSAL?

*** HOW ABOUT FAMILY MEMBERS? HOW ABOUT CO-WORKERS, COLLEAGUES? HOW ABOUT OTHER CHRISTIANS?

**** WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN WE FIND OURSELVES SWIMMING UPSTREAM?

(2) WELL, I WANT TO GIVE YOU 4 THINGS TO DO, 3 OF THEM FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS. (3 I **BORROWED FROM CHUCK SWINDOLL'S** COMMENTARY ON LUKE.)

* NO. 1 EXAMINE YOURSELF! NOW OBVIOUSLY FOR JESUS, HE DID NOT NEED TO DO THAT, FOR HE NEVER DID ANYTHING WRONG, BUT WE DO!

** SO EXAMINE YOURSELF IN THE LIGHT OF SCRIPTURE AND IN THE LIGHT OF GODLY COUNSEL. WERE YOU UNLOVING, PROUD, HARSH, UNKIND, VINDICTIVE, UNRIGHTEOUSLY ANGRY, VENGEFUL?

*** IF YOU WERE REPENT AND CLEAR YOUR CONSCIENCE.

**** AND EVEN IF YOU WERE SLIGHTLY IN THE WRONG, TRY TO FIND THE KERNEL OF TRUTH IN THE CRITICISM.

(3) NO. 2 WHEN SOMEONE DOES A REVERSAL ON YOU, **DON'T BE SURPRISED!**

*** AND OUR HEART RESPONSE MIGHT BE, I CAN'T BELIEVE HE OR SHE SAID THAT, I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY ARE TREATING ME LIKE THIS, I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY MISUNDERSTOOD WHAT I SAID.**

**** AND IF IT IS FOR THE GOSPEL, REMEMBER JESUS WAS PERFECT AND THEY TURNED ON HIM AND JESUS WARNED US IF THEY TREATED ME WRONGLY THEY WILL TREAT YOU WRONGLY.**

***** NO. 3 DON'T GIVE UP! JESUS DIDN'T HERE AND ON MANY OTHER OCCASIONS. AND AGAIN CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT OPPOSE YOU.**

(4) BUT JUST BECAUSE THE CROWD IS AGAINST **YOU, DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE WRONG. IF YOU HAVE DETERMINED THROUGH COUNSEL AND HUMILITY AND SCRIPTURE THAT THE COURSE YOU HAVE TAKEN IS RIGHT, STAY ON IT!**

* AND THEN NO. 4 **DON'T GET SIDETRACKED!**
THE LAST VERSE OF OUR STUDY TODAY, V. 30
SIMPLY SAYS AT THE END, "HE WENT HIS WAY,"
SPEAKING OF JESUS.

** AND THE VERB WENT IS IN THE IMPERFECT
TENSE WHICH MEANS, JESUS KEPT GOING ON
HIS WAY.

*** HE NEVER LOST SIGHT OF HIS MISSION, THE
CROSS, SAVING HIS PEOPLE, PLEASING HIS
FATHER. KEEP ON THE PATH OF OBEDIENCE,
AND PLEASING YOUR FATHER.

**** PEOPLE AND FAMILY WILL TURN ON YOU.
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY WHEN IT IS FOR YOUR
SIN, KEEP ON KEEPING ON WHEN YOU ARE
DOING THE WILL OF YOUR FATHER, QUOTE
MATTHEW 5:10-12.

(5) LAST OF ALL, GOD DOESN'T SAVE PROUD PEOPLE, SELF-RIGHTEOUS RELIGIOUS PEOPLE. HE SAVES THE POOR, THE SPIRITUALLY POOR, THE BLIND, PRISONERS OF SIN, THE OPPRESSED.

* IF YOU SEE YOUR SIN TODAY, AND SEE JESUS AS THE MESSIAH, THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN, TURN TO HIM IN REPENTANT FAITH AND HE **WILL SAVE YOU FROM YOUR SINS. (LET'S PRAY)**