

March 19, 2023 AM – Pastor Kevin Olivier  
Luke 4:38-44 – “Jesus Preached & Delivered Many”

- A. There are certain things in this life that you just cannot separate. Think about fire, light, & heat. The earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus was the same way.
- B. Immediately after He was victorious over the temptations of the Devil, the Holy Spirit led Jesus to the region of Galilee to begin his public ministry. He began teaching in their synagogues & was praised by many in the region except for his hometown synagogue in Nazareth.

Put your faith in Jesus who preached & delivered many.	I. <u>CHRIST’S ATTESTING SIGNS &amp; WONDERS-</u> II. <u>CHRIST’S PURPOSE TO PREACH</u>
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I. CHRIST’S ATTESTING SIGNS & WONDERS-

- A. The 1<sup>st</sup> miracle in today’s text was when Jesus healed Simon’s mother-in-law. → vv38-39
1. The Roman Catholic Church (RCC) was wrong about Simon Peter being celibate.
    - a. They claim Simon was the 1<sup>st</sup> pope. Peter is also supposed to be our preeminent example for the practice of celibacy for all popes, bishops, & priests.
      - 1) Today’s text says he was married.
      - 2) 1 Cor 9:5 Paul says some years later, “**Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles & the brothers of the Lord & Cephas [Peter]”?**  
1 Tim 3:2 says, “**An overseer [‘Bishop’ NKJV] must be ... husband of one wife.**”
    - b. The RCC uses ridiculous attempts at translation & interpretation to say he wasn’t married.
  2. If you’ve ever had a high fever— 103°F or higher — you may feel like you could possibly die.
    - a. If you are able to get the fever down, it may take days before you can get back to activity again. This wasn’t the case when Jesus healed Simon’s mother-in-law.
    - b. In v39, “**He rebuked the fever, & it left her; & she immediately got up & waited on them.**” Luke put this detail in the gospel to demonstrate how Jesus gave her a miraculous healing.
- B. Simon’s mother-in-law wasn’t the only one who was healed. → v40
1. This verse doesn’t tell us what sort of diseases were healed; however, Luke told us that Jesus healed men of leprosy (5:12f, 17:11), a paralytic (5:17f), a man with a withered hand (6:6-11), a centurion’s slave who was sick & about to die (7:1f). He raised a widow’s son & the daughter of Jairus from the dead (7:11, 8:49f), a woman with a 12 year flow of blood (8:43f), a boy with seizures (9:37f), a mute man (11:14), & blind Bartimaeus (18:35f).
  2. If you ever have doubts, look to the Word, person, & works of Jesus. → Turn to Lu 7:18-23
- C. The Lord Jesus delivered many from the oppression of demons. → v41  
Eyes witnesses of His miraculous works said, “**He has done all things well**” (Mk 7:37).

## II. CHRIST'S PURPOSE TO PREACH

A. According to v40, as the sun was setting many people brought the sick & demon possessed to Jesus to be delivered. In v42, we read, **“When day came, Jesus left & went to a secluded place.”**

1. Why did Jesus go off to a **“secluded place”** at sunrise?

a. Jesus was up all night healing & cleansing many of evil spirits. He surely needed rest.

b. In a parallel passage, Lu 6:12 tells us that **“He went off to the mountain to pray, & He spent the whole night in prayer to God.”**

2. If private devotions were important to the sinless, blessed Son of God, you likewise should pursue time to be alone with God reading the Word & in prayer.

B. Many who saw Christ's miraculous works or who were themselves delivered told others about Jesus. That is why crowds gathered around him. → v42

1. The crowds searched for Him & eventually found Him. They brought more people who needed to be healed & cleansed by Him.

2. Some might say that there's nothing more spiritual than a marathon healing worship service. Jesus would disagree with such a statement.

a. The Lord Jesus wasn't agreeable to having only a healing ministry. → vv43-44

b. He mentioned a need to **“preach the kingdom of God to other cities also.”** This means that Jesus wasn't just healing & casting out demons from sunset to sunrise, He was also preaching. He said that He needed to preach to other cities as well.

C. The healing of a disease wasn't the ultimate deliverance Jesus came to give.

1. Someone could have been cured of paralysis, blindness, or some other ailment yet still end up in hell when they passed on from this life.

2. The preaching of God's Word, especially pointing to the indispensable work of Jesus on the cross tells us of a much important, long-standing deliverance.

a. The preaching of God's Word even during the ministry of Jesus was absolutely necessary for the salvation of men, women, & children.

b. Think about the love & mercy of Jesus to heal & deliver many from evil spirits. John Morison in one of his hymns wrote, “While kindness in His bosom glowed, ...from His lips salvation flowed.”<sup>1</sup>

c. According to Rom 10, God places a great deal of importance upon preaching.

→ Rom 10:9-15

Review, further application, & conclusion:

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<sup>1</sup> Trinity Psalter Hymnal, # 201 “’Twas on That Night When Doomed to Know”