

## **Proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom (Matthew 4: 23-25)**

- a. Jesus' baptism (3: 13-17)
- b. Jesus temptation by the devil (4:1-12)
- c. Jesus ministry begins, John the Baptist: prison (4:13)
- d. "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (4:17)
- e. Jesus calls His first disciples (4:18-21)

### **I. Jesus proclaims the Gospel of the Kingdom in the Synagogue**

- Jesus preaches first to the Jew, He proclaims the kingdom of God.
- Synagogue – place where Jewish life centered around the law.
- Any Israelite could speak in the Synagogue if invited.
- Preaching, teaching, and healing all kinds of sickness & diseases..."
- Fulfilment of prophecy: Isa 9:1,2; 35: 5-6 – Matt 9: 16,17; Isa 53:4.
- Sickness, demon possession – picture of the results of the curse.

### **II. Jesus Fame Spread Throughout the Region (4: 24, 25)**

- Then his fame went throughout all Syria....
- *Great multitudes followed from Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and beyond the Jordan*
- The people were living in darkness they were scattered like sheep.
- Preaching, teaching with authority, miracles – Jesus like the prophets of old.
- Though Jesus began with the Jews, these regions spilled into Gentile areas.
- The light of the Kingdom of God was breaking into a world of darkness.

## **The Cup of Suffering (Matthew 26: 36-45)**

- Come to the Lord's Table – Jesus' cup of suffering.

Matt 26: 39, 42 *“if it is possible let this cup pass from me, not as I will, as you will.”*

*If this cup cannot pass away from me unless I drink it, your will be done.”*

- Mark 14: 36; Luke 22: 41, 22 and John omits this account.

### **I. What Cup is Jesus Talking About?**

#### **A. A cup of great suffering**

v.38 *“My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death.”*

Lk 22: 43 *“His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground”*

- i. His suffering was physical. (small part of it)
- ii. His suffering was spiritual (Anguish of His soul)

Isa 53: 10 *“make your soul an offering.”*

Isa 53: 11 *“the labor of His soul.”*

Isa 53: 12 *“because He poured out His soul unto death.”*

#### **B. Did the disciples share in the cup Jesus drank? If so, how?**

- Matthew 20: 23...*you will indeed My cup, & be baptized with my baptism...*
- Not mean that the disciples could suffer for sin with Him – His work alone.
- Participation in this cup is a participation of fellowship/ identification.

### **II. The Cup Testifies of the Fellowship of Suffering at the Table**

- *“All who desire to live godly in Christ will suffer persecution”* (2 Tim 3:12).
- *“granted on behalf of Christ...to believe in Him but suffer for His sake”* (Phil 1:29).
- To be a Christian is to be called to fellowship in His suffering (Phil 3: 10).

Luke 9: 23; 1 Pet 3: 12-14; 1 Peter 5: 10-11.