

THE GOSPEL OF MARK "Not one"

HOME TOWN VISIT

*Nazareth is not mentioned in the OT, in Josephus, or in the Rabbinic literature of the Mishnah and the Talmud. No church was built there until the time of Constantine (a.d. 325). Archaeological digs have uncovered a series of grottoes that date to the time of Jesus. It is an obscure hamlet of earthen dwellings chopped into sixty acres of rocky hillside, with a total population of 500 at most.

*Not his first time back home—Luke 4:14-30—tried to throw him off a cliff

*Teaching received mixed results

-Amazed—where did he get this stuff?

-Offended— Flabbergasted

-Carpenter to Prophet? Nothing special about Jesus—Isaiah 53:2

-Discredit him "this man"

-“Mary’s son” the bastard kid

-Could not explain him so they reject him

-A stumbling block—1 Corinthians 1:23, Matthew 21:44

JESUS IS AMAZED

*Prophet without honor—it is hard to go back home

*Family thought he was crazy—Mark 3:20-21, 31-35

*Something Jesus couldn’t even do . . . “No” miracles—‘not one’ - Able to calm a storm, able to cast out a legion, able to heal disease, able to raise the dead. Unable to do anything when there is lack of belief – no faith.

***The only limitation to omnipotence is unbelief.**

*Should Jesus really have been amazed? Isn’t this our M.O. through out time?

*“What amazes God about humanity is not its sinfulness and propensity for evil but its hardness of heart and unwillingness to believe in him.”

SENDING THE 12

*He sent them to preach, heal and cast out.

*Jesus called the disciples to send them out not to sit them down.

*Take nothing—traveling light—total dependency on God and the hospitality of Israel.

*“Shaking the dust” move on because there is more who need to hear

Mark 6:1-13 (NIV)

⁽¹⁾ Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ⁽²⁾ When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles!" ⁽³⁾ Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁽⁴⁾ Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor." ⁽⁵⁾ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁽⁶⁾ And he was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. ⁽⁷⁾ Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits. ⁽⁸⁾ These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff--no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. ⁽⁹⁾ Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. ⁽¹⁰⁾ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. ⁽¹¹⁾ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave, as a testimony against them." ⁽¹²⁾ They went out and preached that people should repent. ⁽¹³⁾ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Matthew 21:44 (NIV)

⁽⁴⁴⁾ He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed."

Does Astonishment lead to Belief?