

## SABBATH HEALINGS

### Chronological Interlude II - A Sabbath in Nazareth

Luke 4:16-21

- 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. And he stood up to read.
- 17 The 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."
- 20 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,
- 21 and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." (NIV)

Luke 4:18

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, (KJV)

*Aside from this being on a Sabbath, what does it have to do with our series?*

Luke 4:22-23

- 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.
- 23 Jesus 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.'" (NIV)

*What had he just proclaimed? Preaching of the gospel to the poor, set at liberty the captives, give sight to the blind and release the oppressed. This is spiritual but is also factual. Not only did He preach good news to the poor, He ministered monetarily to their needs. He healed those who were brokenhearted (spiritually and physically). He opened the eyes of the blind, both those who couldn't see and those in spiritual darkness. He quoted them a composite Scripture of His anointing which centers on and deals with healing. The sense and intention of Isaiah 62:1-2 is kept, but its application is amplified and a composite is put in (to set at liberty them that are bruised).*

Isa 42:6-7

- 6 "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles,
- 7 to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. (NIV)

Isa 58:6

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords

of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? (NIV)

Luke 4:25-27

25 I 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.

26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon.

27 And 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." (NIV)

*Elijah and the widow-*

IKing 17:1-16

1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

2 Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah:

3 "Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan.

4 You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there."

5 So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there.

6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

7 Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land.

8 Then the word of the LORD came to him:

9 "Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food."

10 So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?"

11 As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

12 "As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread-- only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it-- and die."

13 Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

14 For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD gives rain on the land.'"

15 She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family.

16 For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah. (NIV)

*Many lessons are in this section. In symbology alone, bread and oil = word and the Spirit, the land of Israel had a physical famine because of its spiritual apostasy. During this time, a gentile widow is being fed through the ministry of a prophet of God (for 3 and one-half years no less).*

IKing 17:17-24

- 17 Some time later the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. He grew worse and worse, and finally stopped breathing.
- 18 She said to Elijah, "What do you have against me, man of God? Did you come to remind me of my sin and kill my son?"
- 19 "Give me your son," Elijah replied. He took him from her arms, carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his bed.
- 20 Then he cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you brought tragedy also upon this widow I am staying with, by causing her son to die?"
- 21 Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this boy's life return to him!"
- 22 The LORD heard Elijah's cry, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived.
- 23 Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, "Look, your son is alive!"
- 24 Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD from your mouth is the truth." (NIV)

*The resurrection of her son proved to her that Elijah was a man of God and that the word of the Lord out of his mouth was truth. The Old Testament is the shadow of New Testament realities. The miracle of raising someone from the dead is just a shadow of the resurrection. Physician, heal thyself? The resurrection was the ultimate fulfillment of that.*

John 2:18-22

- 18 Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"
- 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."
- 20 The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?"
- 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body.
- 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. (NIV)

John 10:17-18

- 17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life-- only to take it up again.
- 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." (NIV)

*How did they taunt Him when He was being crucified?*

Matt 27:39-50

- 39 Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads
- 40 and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!"
- 41 In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him.
- 42 "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.

- 43 He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"
- 44 In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.
- 45 From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land.
- 46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"-- which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- 47 When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."
- 48 Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink.
- 49 The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."
- 50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. (NIV)

John 19:28-30

- 28 Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."
- 29 A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.
- 30 When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (NIV)

*It was on the accusation of two false witnesses that the Sanhedrin justified its death sentence on Jesus. Physician, heal thyself was, perhaps, their final insult. But what is going on with the words "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Rabbinical teaching methods are that you quote a portion of the Scripture at times in order to refer to the whole greater context.*

Ps 22:1

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? (NIV)

Ps 22:31

They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn-- for he has done it. (*asah*) (NIV)

2 Chr 4:11

He also made the pots and shovels and sprinkling bowls. So Hiram finished (*asah*) the work he had undertaken for King Solomon in the temple of God: (NIV)

*The twenty-second Psalm is sandwiched with "My God, my God . . ." and ends with "It is finished." Read the meat in between.*

*Naaman the Syrian-*

II Ki 5:8-14

- 8 When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."
- 9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house.
- 10 Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your

flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

- 11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy.
- 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.
- 13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'"
- 14 So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. (NIV)

*Naaman had to dip in the Jordan 7 times. Then he was cleansed. These two prophets and the blessings they brought to two Gentiles are cited by the Lord when the community he grew up in fails to recognize who it is that is saying "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." He spoke their own cynicism to them. Do here what you have done in Capernaum. What about Capernaum?*

Matt 11:21-26

- 21 "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.
- 22 But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.
- 23 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day.
- 24 But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."
- 25 At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.
- 26 Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. (NIV)

*When our hearts are not hardened, the manifest power of God will cause us to repent and follow him. When we are blind (hardened) we do not recognize the movement of God in our midst. We don't let the children of Israel go and worship the Lord (Pharaoh. We doubt God's provision (the disciples after the feeding of the five thousand), we think all the miracle stories spoken about in television ministries are exaggerated in an effort to get more gain. And then we may be tempted to say to one who has moved in the power of God, "Do here what we hear you do elsewhere." Let us not be this way with the Lord or his servants. The prophecy he spoke over himself is an amplification of Isaiah 61:1-2 and by allusion and compounding, includes Isaiah 42 and 58.*

Isa 42:5-16

- 5 This is what God the LORD says-- he who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it:
- 6 "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles,

- 7 to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.
- 8 "I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols.
- 9 See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you."
- 10 Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who live in them.
- 11 Let the desert and its towns raise their voices; let the settlements where Kedar lives rejoice. Let the people of Sela sing for joy; let them shout from the mountaintops.
- 12 Let them give glory to the LORD and proclaim his praise in the islands.
- 13 The LORD will march out like a mighty man, like a warrior he will stir up his zeal; with a shout he will raise the battle cry and will triumph over his enemies.
- 14 "For a long time I have kept silent, I have been quiet and held myself back. But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant.
- 15 I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools.
- 16 I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them. (NIV)

Isa 58:6-14

- 6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?
- 7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter-- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?
- 8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.
- 9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk,
- 10 and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.
- 11 The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.
- 12 Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.
- 13 "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words,
- 14 then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob." The mouth of the LORD has spoken. (NIV)

Isa 61:1-11

- 1 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,
- 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,
  - 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.
  - 4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.
  - 5 Aliens will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.
  - 6 And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.
  - 7 Instead of their shame my people will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace they will rejoice in their inheritance; and so they will inherit a double portion in their land, and everlasting joy will be theirs.
  - 8 "For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and iniquity. In my faithfulness I will reward them and make an everlasting covenant with them.
  - 9 Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the LORD has blessed."
  - 10 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
  - 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations. (NIV)