



# Capernaum

The City of the Lord – Pt. 2





# Facts About Capernaum

- ◇ It was a small Jewish fishing/agricultural community on the northwest coast of the Sea of Galilee near the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali.
- ◇ It was mentioned 16 times in the gospels and was the city Jesus chose to live in, fulfilling prophecy – Matt. 4:12-16; 1:23
- ◇ Its name meant “city of comfort.” And, Jesus’ work there should have given this city great comfort! – Isa. 61:1-2
- ◇ The city’s response to its visitation provides some sobering lessons for us today!





# Jesus' Miracles in Capernaum






# Jesus' Miracles

- The extent and importance of the miracles are seen in the proverb Jesus presents in Nazareth – Lk. 4:22-24
  - They were offended at Jesus' claim to be the Messiah of Isa. 61
  - Their skepticism demanded miracles...like those done in **Capernaum**
- He cast out a demon in Capernaum's synagogue – Mk. 1:23-28
  - People saw that even the demons knew Jesus and feared His power
  - Proved himself to be the Holy One and ruler of the spiritual world
  - People were amazed and His fame spread around the region
- They witnessed Jesus healing many who were sick and demon-possessed – Mk. 1:32-34
- They watched as Jesus healed the centurion's servant by just *saying the word* – Lk. 7:1-10
- They saw Jesus heal a paralytic let down through the roof – Mk. 2:1-12; Isa. 35:5-6





# Capernaum's Response to Jesus

Matthew 11:20-24



# Response: Rejection!

- Despite their visitation, they did not believe or repent – Matt. 11:20-24
  - Their visitation brought only a woe of condemnation and anguish!
  - A sad and contradictory end for this blessed city – Jn. 3:17-18
- Jesus' condemnation would have stung in a special way because...
  - It put them in the same category as the heathen king of Babylon – Isa. 14:13-15
  - They would receive a harsher judgment than God would bring upon Sodom!







# Lessons from Capernaum





# Lessons

- 1. Even the very presence of God will not change a hardened heart.
  - Many assume if they had physical proof of Jesus' divinity, they would believe and obey
  - Capernaum saw it and did not believe – Jn. 20:29
- 2. Revelation demands responsibility – Lk. 12:48
  - Capernaum was **given much** in God's presence among them.
  - Their refusal to repent could only bring God's most severe wrath and judgment upon them – Jn. 1:4-5, 10-11; 3:19-20
- 3. God will inflict greater punishment upon those who have neglected greater light!



# Conclusion

- We, like Capernaum, will give account for all of God's blessings and instruction in the gospel we have received in this life.
- We must face the fact that we live on a *visited* planet and Jesus' life and work has a purpose each of us must face – Jn. 20:30-31
- You may not be a sinner like those of Sodom! But if you have heard the gospel and refuse to respond, Sodom will fare better than will you in the Judgment! – 2 Thess. 1:8
- What will *you* do with Jesus?