

Capernaum

The City of the Lord – Pt. 2

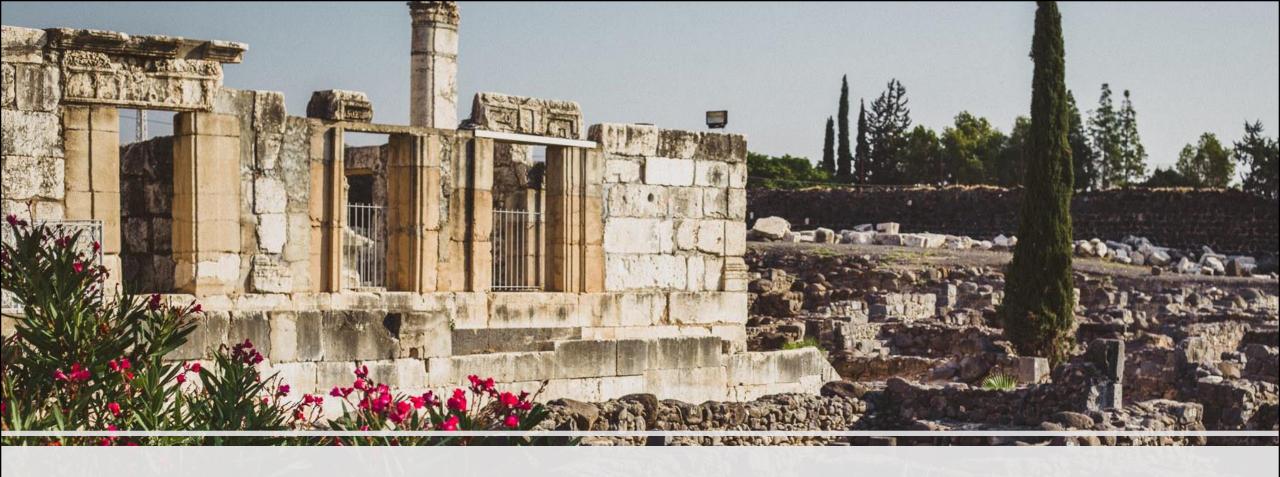
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Facts About Capernaum

- ♦ It was a small Jewish fishing/agricultural community on the northwest coast of the Sea of Galilee near the boarders 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



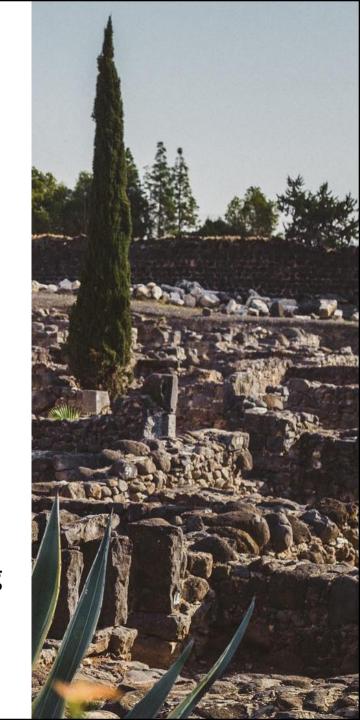
Jesus' Miracles

- 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 demonpossessed – 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



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

- 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 must 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?