

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

## LUKE CHAPTER 4:23-30

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### "IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH "

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,  
THE SON OF GOD, AND THE SON OF MAN*

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SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

### **The Gospel, Hope, Salvation, Rejection, Unbelief**

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**This Past Week in Alabama,  
9 churches have been burnt to the ground. The F.B.I. is there  
investigating to determine whether this is a case of domestic terrorism  
against Christianity, otherwise known as persecution!**

**But perhaps the best thing of all was this week was the interview by  
FOXNEWS of Alabama's Governor. He said *"these Christians and  
their Pastors down here have been an inspiration to our  
State, They're asking God to cause those who did this to  
"come back and listen to the message that Jesus has for  
them"***

**in an Alabama State News Paper, The Pastors said  
*"we've already forgiven you for burning our  
churches - it's Jesus' forgiveness you need!"***

**THAT MESSAGE IS OF COURSE  
JESUS CHRIST PROVIDES THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS  
AND ETERNAL SALVATION...**

when a church is ablaze like that,  
it's alive and burning hot with the love of God.

## SALVATION; IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

*Luke 4:23-30*

*He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.' " :24 Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. :25 But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven(s) was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; :26 but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. :27 And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." :28 ¶ So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, :29 and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. :30 Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way.*

## IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

**I.) Salvation is a personal event v.23-24**

(it must happen personally, not corporately)

**a.) because it's a personal decision v.23**

He said to them,

“You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.’”

‘Physician, **heal** yourself!  
this was an age-old proverb in that time meaning,  
**"Heal Yourself before You Attempt to Heal Others"**

**heal** = qerapeu/w therapeuo, *ther-ap-yoo'-o*;

to attend to a disease. to apply a cure, a remedy

**"Hey Jesus, Why don't you heal yourself of your own diseases before you touch anyone of us."**

if You can heal, and we've heard You can,  
then do something right here in Your own hometown

what is in a heart like this?  
what kind of mind thinks like this?

**Right On The Heels of Luke 4:21-22**

And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” :22 So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “**Is this not Joseph's son?**”

***Salvation, is a personal event!  
because it's a personal decision***

"Whatever we have heard done (**Miracles**) in Capernaum,  
do also here in Your country."

## (The Issue Wasn't Miracles, It was Unbelief)

### John 21:25

And there are also **many other things** that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

They had already been given enough evidence to make a decision about Jesus Christ. His fame had spread. His message was well known. Thousands were following Him, lives were being changed!

They Had The Facts, The Evidence was Before Them  
but they were deciding to go with their prejudice.

**those things that are most important to us,  
we often treat with contempt**

it's the common things of life that are the most foundational

as humans, we are prone to glitz and glitter  
no matter who the person is, it's a weakness of ours!

## But Jesus, He Had Grown Up There

***Salvation, is a personal event and it Requires  
a personal decision***

***b.) because it's a personal choice v.24***

*Then He said,*

*"Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country.*

### Matthew 13:57

So they were **offended** at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet receives honor and respect everywhere he goes except in his own country and among his own family."

offended // skandalizo // embarrassed

**The Challenge is;  
Will You Make a Personal Choice about  
Jesus Christ?**

**c.) *because it's a personal act v.24***

To Believe in Jesus Christ - is to honor Him or to accept Him

As Christian's We'll Ask Someone

**"Have You Accepted Jesus Christ?**

**"Have You Accepted (honored) Jesus Christ?**

**John 5:23-24**

that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. :24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

Honored. **timazw timao**, *tim-ah'-o*; from 5093; the grand prize. to fix a high value upon someone. to respect and desire with high estimation.

**Jesus is About to give Them an Example about  
Honoring and Accepting**

**IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH**

**II.) *Salvation is a global invitation v.25-27***

(there is no human beyond the hope of God's love)

*Luke 4:25*

*But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven(s) was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; :26 but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. :27 And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”*

## Jesus is Calling Them To Remember 1 Kings 17 and 2 Kings 5

### **a.) Global because of our great need v.25-26**

*25 But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven(s) was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; :26 but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow*

It's Equal to Us Preaching to Hamas and Thousands of These Hamas Terrorists Getting Converted from Islam to Christ - The Jews would Freak Out

### **1 Kings 17:10-16**

So Elijah, coming to Zareph(f)ath. he came to the town gate, and a widow was there gathering sticks. Calling to her, he 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 again, “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.

She Obeyed and Put the Man of God First  
(in doing that, she put God first - before her son, before herself, she put God first)

## A Gentile Honored the Lord, Elijah's God

The Mind of Those in Jesus' Day  
So believed that they were the chosen people of God  
that rather than invite others to know God, they excluded them.

***Salvation, it's a global invitation,  
Global because of Man's great need***

***b.) Global because of His great love v.26***

*but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath,*

*in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow*

Elijah  
was sent to undesirable, hated people group.

Jonah  
was sent to undesirable, hated people group.

Jesus  
was sent to undesirable, hated people group.

### **1 John 4:9-10**

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. :10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

### **Galatians 4:4**

But when the fullness of the time had come,  
God sent forth His Son,

**Now Look, Make No Mistake About It,**

**The Jewish Nation, Israel**  
has been ordained by God to give salvation to the world.

**Isaiah 49:6**

I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.”

But Israel refused to acknowledge their divine calling. So then God took that invitation and used another vehicle to send it – that other vehicle was the church.

**Israel will once again have her opportunity to share the gospel to the world, it she will do an awesome job.**

**Isaiah 11:10**

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

In The Future,

**Israel will become the Epicenter for Global Evangelism**

**John 4:21-24**

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. **:22** You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. **:23** But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **:24** God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

**Verse 27**

*And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”*

**2 Kings 5:15**

Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, **“Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel.**

What do these miracles represent?

The Widow = She prepared to die, Life came instead.  
General Naaman = Cleansing is equal to forgiveness

Both of these people could not help themselves.  
one was going to lay down and die, the other was going to eventually rot away - they  
needed a miracle!

## Only a Miracle Could Save Them

It Took a Miracle to Save Them,  
and It's Going to Take a Miracle to Save You Too!  
**Jesus was, is and Can be That Miracle for You if...**

### **c.) Global because of the great expense v.25-27**

#### **John 3:15-19**

whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. :16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. :17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. :18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. :19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

But Jack, What About the Guy Who's Never Heard the  
Gospel?

The Guy with the Bone in His Nose Running around in the  
Jungle?

### **Before I Answer That Question.**

What About You Who Have Heard the Gospel?

What About You, the Guy Running Around with a Cell Phone Stuck  
to His Face?

#### **Romans 1:18-22**

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, :19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. :20 For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by

the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, :21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. :22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, :23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

**Jesus, Approved by God Through Miracles**  
was now telling these people that God loved the gentiles too.

**He was teaching them from the scriptures**  
that Salvation is for all People, not just to the Jews only

Listen Friend;

what Jesus did on the cross was for all people, all nations, everyone!

**1 John 2:2**

And He Himself was the propitiation (sacrifice) for our sins,  
and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

**IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH**

**III.) *Salvation is the ultimate issue***

**v.28-32**

(There is no other means or mode for redemption)

***The People Challenged God's Sovereignty to Act***

*:28 So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,  
:29 and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill  
on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. :30 Then  
passing through the midst of them, He went His way.*

**a.) *Ultimate because it's of the Lord***

**a.) *Ultimate because it's of the Lord v.28***

*So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things,  
were filled **with wrath**, = murder!*

Why?

the doctrine of the Sovereignty of God  
is most offensive doctrine of all.

because mankind has God to answer to in the end  
When They Had said;  
"Physician, Heal Yourself - Heal Your Own Diseases"

he had none to heal. which made him qualified to take on my diseases.

**"I am Sick with Sin"**

**Matthew 9:10-12**

Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, *that* behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. :11 And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" :12 When Jesus heard *that*, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. :13 But go and learn what *this* means: '*I desire mercy and not sacrifice.*' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

**In Antioch of Syria... Acts 13:39-48**

Paul taught them saying, "by Jesus Christ, everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.... So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath.... On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.... But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.... Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you Jews first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.... For so the Lord has

commanded us: *“I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.”* ... Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

***b.) Ultimate because it's scope***

***c.) Ultimate because it's victory***

***Salvation, it's a personal event!***  
***Salvation, it's a global invitation!***  
***Salvation, it's the ultimate issue!***

end