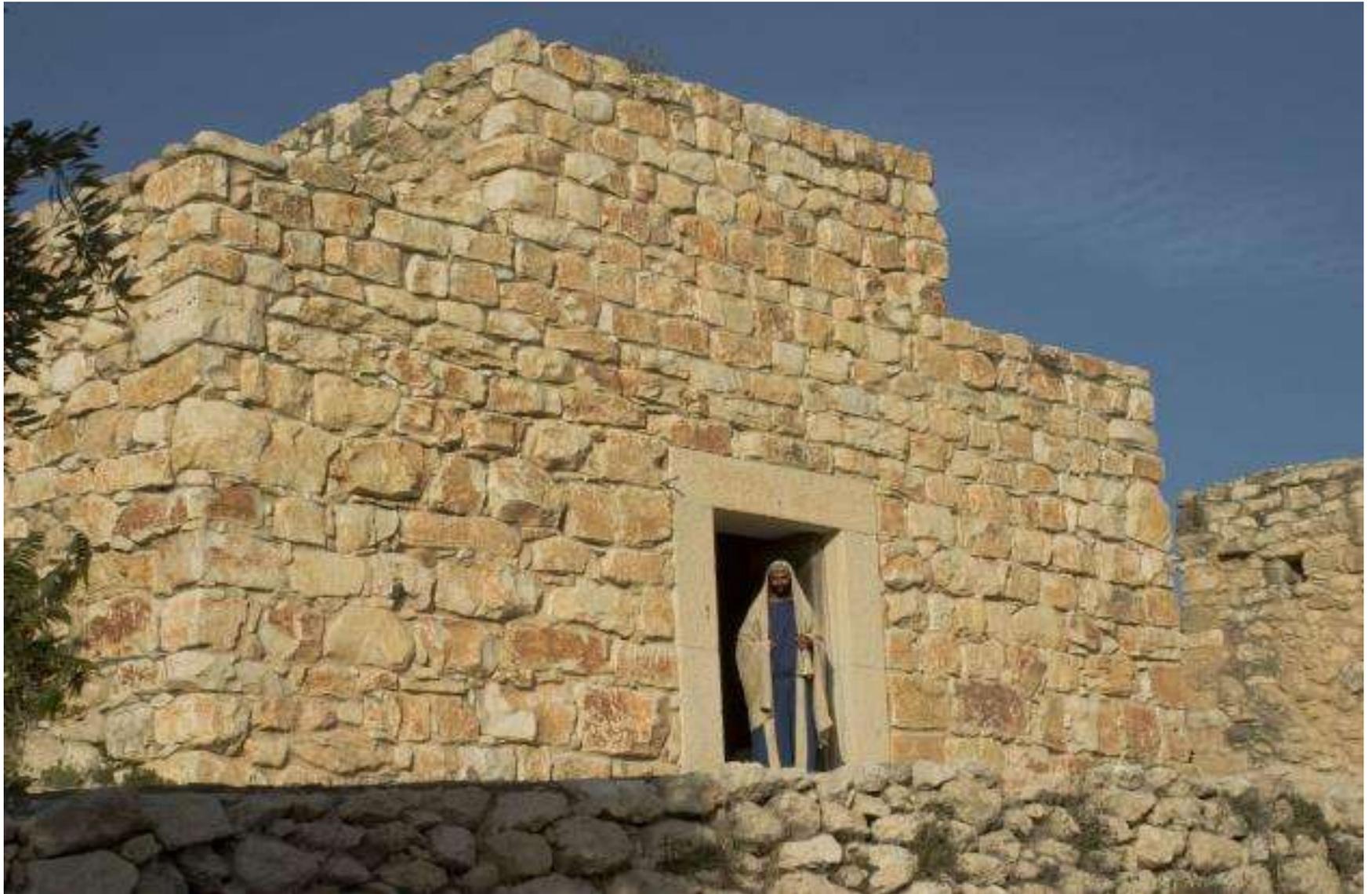


# Jesus' first Sermon at the Nazareth Synagogue



# The **SITUATION** in 1<sup>st</sup> Century Galilee

Population – mainly Jewish



# The **SITUATION** in 1<sup>st</sup> Century Galilee

## Occupied Nation



Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing.

After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered.

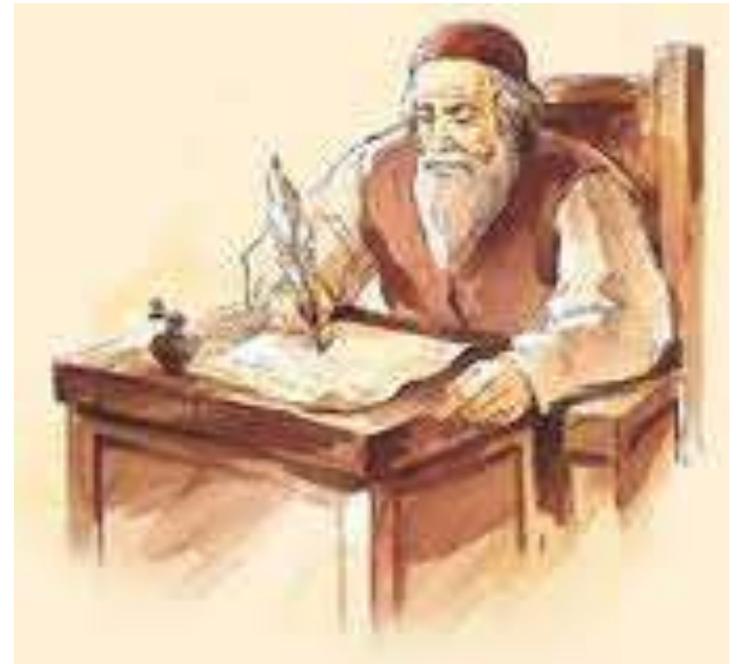
Acts 5: 36 -37

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.

Luke 13: 1

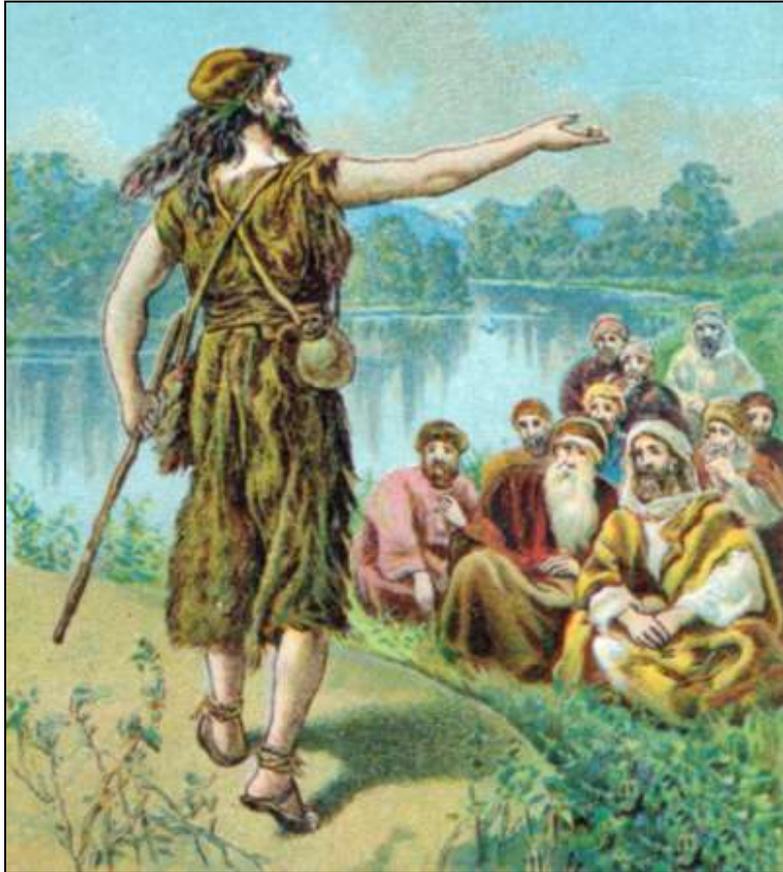
# The **SITUATION** in 1<sup>st</sup> Century Galilee

## Thriving Religion



# The **SITUATION** in 1<sup>st</sup> Century Galilee

## Messianic Expectations



John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them. Luke 3: 16 - 17

# Jesus 1<sup>st</sup>. Sermon in Nazareth



**Starts as a  
typical  
synagogue  
Sabbath  
service**



He stood up to read

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. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written.. **"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, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."** 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, and he began by saying to them, **"Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."** All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips.

Luke 4: 16 - 30

## Jesus' message

- 1, What he included
- 2, What he left out

*Compare*

Jack and Jill went up the hill  
His fleece was white as snow  
Jack fell down and broke his crown  
And Jill came tumbling after.

## What Jesus said combining 2 passages....

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**, to proclaim the year of **the Lord's favour**.

### Isaiah 61: 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, to proclaim the year of **the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God**,

### Isaiah 58: 6

Is that what you call a fast, a day **acceptable to the LORD**? "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?"



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, and he began by saying to them, **"Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."**

**Rabbi's sat down to teach !**

## **The Meaning of the message**

- 1, **I am the Messiah**
- 2, **My mission is to bring MERCY NOW  
not judgement (that's for later)**

## The reaction

*All spoke well of him*

*NIV*

*So all bore witness to Him,*

*NKJ*

Judging by the reaction that follows, it seems they “took note” of what he said and didn’t like it,

and were  
**ASTOUNDED** at  
the gracious words



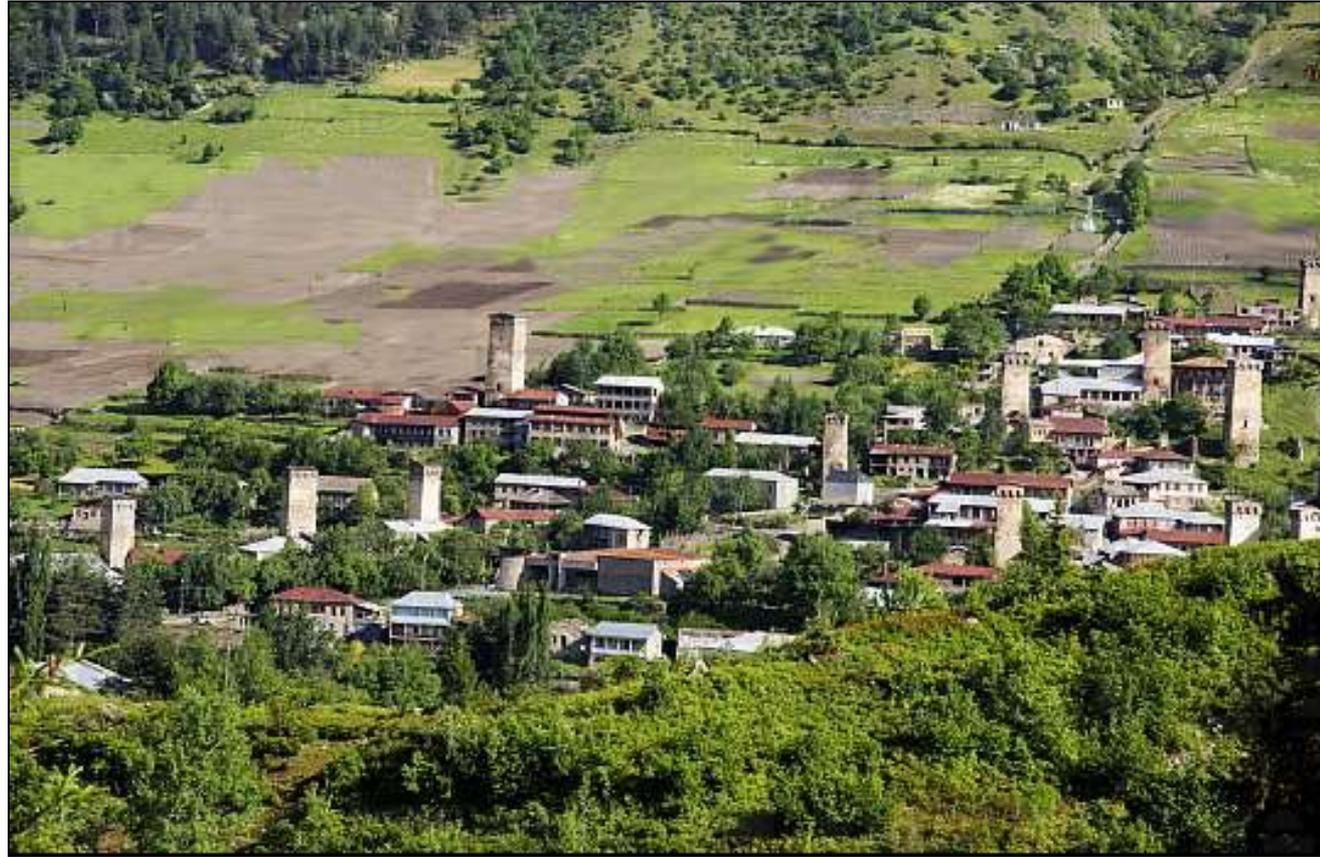
*He may be a good  
speaker, but we  
don't like what he  
says!*

# The Response

## Offence no.1

"Isn't this  
Joseph's son?"  
they asked.

*"Who does he  
think he is?"*



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.`" "I tell you the truth," he  
continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown."

## **Witness No. 1**

## **Offence no. 2 – mercy for foreigners**

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



## **Witness No. 2**

## **Offence no. 3 blessing for enemies**

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."



## The People's Reaction

All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff.



But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

Luke 4: 16 - 30

**If you don't like the message – kill the messenger!**



**God's blessing on the GENTILE Foreigners ?**

**LOVE Your Enemies?**

**Can you cope with God being this  
gracious?**

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**, to proclaim the year of **the Lord's favour**.

We need grace like the rest.

**But God demonstrates his own love for us in this.. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

**Romans 5 : 8**

