



Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 2

Jesus Shows He Is True God

Law/Gospel

Sin blinds me so I cannot see my Savior. **God works through His Word and Sacraments so I can see and believe in Jesus.**

Bible Words

[Jesus said,] "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me . . . to proclaim good news."
Luke 4:18

Fun Facts

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth before Jesus' birth and returned home when He was a young child. Jesus grew up in Nazareth and people identified Him as "Jesus of Nazareth."

Known as one of the most beautiful places in Galilee, Nazareth lies in a basin, surrounded by limestone hills. Five hundred feet above Nazareth, a hill offers a panoramic view of the mountains to the north, south, and west. You can see the Mediterranean Sea on the west and the rock fortress of Megiddo rising from the plain on the south. This is the hill from which the townspeople probably tried to throw Jesus to His death.

Jesus Is Rejected at Nazareth

Luke 4:16–30

Home offers a comfortable place for many, but not for Jesus. Jesus returned home to Nazareth in the early days of His public ministry and went to the synagogue on the Sabbath, as was His custom.

Jesus stood up to read, probably at the invitation of the synagogue ruler. After reading the messianic prophecy from Isaiah 61, Jesus announced, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). Then He sat down to teach. The crowd marveled at Jesus' gracious words and all was well until Jesus called the people to repentance.

Using Old Testament examples, Jesus showed that God would open the covenant to Gentiles. Appalled and angry, the people drove Him out of town to the brow of a hill, intending to throw Him down as a false prophet. Jesus simply passed through the crowd and went on His way.

The Messiah was in control. He would lay down His life; no one would take it from Him until the appointed hour (John 10:18).

God's Grace to Gentiles in the Old Testament

The Bible shows God's grace for Gentiles or non-Jews in the Old Testament, although we may not easily identify it.

In His sermon at Nazareth, Jesus shared these examples:

- God spared His prophet Elijah by housing him with a widow and her son in Sidon, a foreign country.
- In Elisha's time, although there were many lepers in Israel, the Lord cleansed only Naaman the Syrian.

Given more time, Jesus could have cited many other examples. God's love is inclusive. He loves everyone, Jews and Gentiles, people of all ages from all nations.

Prayer

Lord God, thank You for offering Your grace to all people at all times and in all places. Keep us in Your truth. In Jesus' name. Amen.