

***Intro:***

Main Point of Text: Jesus fulfills another prophecy about beginning His public ministry: it will glow around the globe.

Sermon Point: *Jesus is the Light of the World.*

***Move 1: At the beginning of Christ's public ministry the world's alarm clock went off.***

This was scheduled. Vs. 14: "fulfilled ... spoken by the prophet" (theme: 1:22; 2:5, 15, 17, 23; 3:3; 3:17). Birth line, birth, travels, hometown, baptism, *boot camp* (chs 1-4:11). Now begins active duty. Luke 4:14: *And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee ...* John prepared the way, gets out of the way: Vss. 12/17. Connection more clear in condensed version, Mark 1:14-15: *Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled ...* Eph. 5:14. Christ's coming brought "time of the reformation", "last days" Heb. 9:10; 1:1-3.

***Move 2: The beginning of Christ's public ministry opened the shades of Israel's dark house.***

Father God sends His incarnate Son to enlighten His darkened household. Vss. 13/15 quotes Isa. 9:1-2: area was the outer region of Israel's kingdom; its residents became outcasts. Calvin on context: 1) 4 tribes of Northern Kingdom carried away in banishment to Assyria by king Tiglathpileser (2 Kg. 15:29); 2) king Shalmaneser finished the job (2 Kings 18:9); 3) worst still to come, prefigured in the end of Isaiah 8 (prophesied in Mt. 11:23 and later realized): yet 9:1-2 looks to restoration beyond Senacherib's death (2 Kings 19:36) – to God Personally and completely reclaiming His household by sending His Son (Heb. 3:6). J. Gill: first place destroyed in the Holy Land is the first to be restored. Judgment begins with God's house; but so does mercy. Mal. 4:2; Mt. 12:20 quoting Isa. 43:3. Vs. 16: "shadow of death" – Ps. 23:4.

***Move 3: The beginning of Christ's public ministry flipped the switch on for the rest of the world.***

John preached to Jews in Judaea. Jesus preaches to Jews and Gentiles throughout the earth. He strategically begins in Capernaum. On the Sea of Galilee. On a very busy trade route between Damascus and Mediterranean Sea (ways to the Gentiles). Vss. 15-16: "Galilee of the Gentiles". On Israel's outskirts bordering other nations and mixed with their people. Here Christ also symbolically begins to fulfill Isa. 42:6 and Isa. 49:6 as born out in Acts 1:8 (and Mt. 28:19-20). Acts 13:47: *... so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.* Vs. 17: Acts 11:18: *... Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.* Acts 20:21; 2 Tim. 1:10; John 8:12; Mat. 5:14; Eph. 5:8; Phil. 2:15; Rev. 21:23; 22:16; 2 Pet. 1:19.

***Conclusion:***

*Jesus is the Light of the World.*