

Hidden Hills Sovereign Grace Baptist Church

Sunday Sermon

Date: December 19, 2021

Text: Matthew 13:53-58

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:53-58

Subject: Jesus visits his hometown of Nazareth again

As you remember, I preached from Matthew 13:51-52 and included a review of the seven parables of the kingdom last time. The LORD's disciples clearly said they did understand all these things which Jesus had spoken to them in the parables of the kingdom.

The LORD encouraged his disciples by saying to them: "Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old." They had been equipped (as all the Lord's servants are) who understand these things related to the kingdom of heaven. They were able to bring forth from their stored memory things both old and new – all fitted to be a help and blessing to the young and old saints; the new converts and the mature believers.

Matthew 13:51-52 (KJV) Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. 52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Now we come to the ending verses of this 13th chapter where we see Jesus come back again to his "own country" – the city of Nazareth where he had grown up and where he had been subject to his mother Mary and her husband, Joseph. Doubtless, the citizens of Nazareth knew something of the childhood life of Jesus, things that we are not told in scripture. We will see in these verses the second rejection of our Lord by those of his hometown. Let's first read about his first visit to Nazareth after he began His personal ministry – during which visit, our Lord was very ill treated by those who lived in Nazareth.

Luke 4:16-30 (KJV) *And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. **17** And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, **18** The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, **19** To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. **20** And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. **21** And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears. **22** And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son? **23** And he said unto them, Ye will surely say unto me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself: whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in thy country. **24** And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country. **25** But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; **26** But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow. **27** And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian. **28** And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, **29** And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. **30** But he passing through the midst of them went his way,*

Mark also records this second visit of our Lord to Nazareth in Mark 6:1-6. Let's read that.

Mark 6:1-6 (KJV) *And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. 2 And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands? 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. 4 But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. 5 And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. 6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.*

Matthew 13:53 (KJV) *And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence.*

As we remember, Jesus taught these parables of the kingdom of heaven from the shores of the Sea of Galilee and in the house where he opened the understanding of them to his disciples. Now, having finished, he departed from that place.

Matthew 13:54 (KJV) *And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?*

And when he was come into his own country, -- This obviously means, as the further verses will show us that Jesus had gone back to Nazareth where he had been brought up for the second visit recorded in the NT.

He taught them in their synagogue, -- Because it was the sabbath day as Mark tells us in Mark 6:1-2:

Mark 6:1-2 (KJV) *And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. 2 And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?*

Insomuch that they were astonished, -- at the doctrines he taught, which were new and unheard of to them. Even to these homefolks, they were hearing a man speak like no man had every spoken. Jesus spake with so much power and authority, and not as the scribes.

and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? -- They knew about Jesus' formal education, how that he had not been put to school, had never learned letters of men, or received any instructions from their learned doctors. Because they knew this, could not imagine, how he came by such sublime and divine knowledge, and by what power he performed such wonderful things. They looked upon him to be a mere man, and a very lowly and contemptible one. Obviously, these home folks knew not the wisdom of God, and the power of God. Had they been known the LORD, there would have been no room, nor reason, for such questions.

Matthew 13:55-56 (KJV) ***Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? 56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?***

Is not this the carpenter's son? – This tells us that the people of Nazareth knew Joseph, who they assumed to be Jesus' father. They were acquainted with the fact that he was a carpenter.

Is not his mother called Mary? – Mary, at our first account of her, who was a virgin of Nazareth to whom the Angel Gabriel came to announce that she should bear a son whose name she should call Jesus and that he should be called the Son of God. This is that Mary who was espoused to Joseph and was child by the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 1:18-21 (KJV) Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. **19** Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. **20** But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. **21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

And his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? – Several commentators say these men were Jesus' cousins. This preacher believes these to be Mary's sons, born after Jesus because Jesus is said to be her "firstborn son." Mary was not a perpetual virgin as the Roman Catholics say, but she bare other children after Jesus.

And his sisters, are they not all with us? – It is certain from this that there were at least two sisters, but the phrase "are they not all with us" suggests there were more than two.

Whence then hath this man all these things? – This is a term of scorn for our blessed savior? This "man" has had no proper training, how can he know and do the things he does? What blasphemy by the ignorant townspeople of Nazareth!

Matthew 13:57 (KJV) *And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.*

And they were offended in him. – The things Jesus said and did made them stumble at him, and not receive him as the Messiah, or a prophet sent from God. How unreasonable is malice and prejudice! One would have thought that their knowledge of his friends and education should have rather led them to have concluded that he must be sent from God, and more than a man, seeing that he did not come by this wisdom by any ordinary means, nor work these great works by any human power.

But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. – What does Jesus mean by that statement? It is clear to me that he meant that a prophet, or any teacher, or preacher, generally speaking, is more highly esteemed among strangers, who have no personal bad feeling, nor prejudices against him, and who judge him, not by what he has been, but by his present abilities, doctrine, and conduct. Those who grew up with him are apt to think contemptibly of him because they are familiarly acquainted with him, and knew, if not his vices, yet his infirmities, and envy him any superior degree of honor he has attained unto.

Matthew 13:58 (KJV) *And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.*

Jesus only "laid his hands", as Mark says, [Mr 6:5](#) "upon a few sick folk, and healed them"; and yet these were such as raised the wonder and astonishment of the citizens of Nazareth, but did not command their faith. These instances of healing were rather stumbling blocks unto them. These townsfolds were prejudiced against him. They were filled with unbelief and their hearts were

hard. This is the reason why Jesus did no more mighty works among them.

This meek man was and is the mighty God; the only begotten Son of the living God. This is the person who created the earth – the sun, the moon and the stars from nothing. He spake and they stood fast. He sustains them yet today. This man controls the storms, tornados and hurricanes. He commands the snow saying “Be on the earth, and so it is.” He spoke with great authority as one who knows all things. Never man spake as this man! Jesus had power over all sickness, blindness, and all manner of disease as he walked on the earth among them. He had power over the elements and commanded the sea and wind to “be still” and they ceased.

These things authenticated the fact that he was and is the son of God who came into the world to “save His people from their sins.” Let me ask you who hear me today? How do you view Jesus Christ of Nazareth? Is he merely a man who grew up there – a man who went about doing good things? Or, do you view him as the only begotten of the Heavenly Father? Do you view him as the one and only hope for sinners? Do you believe he came into this world to die for the sins of His people – that he was crucified and died; was buried; and came forth from the dead on the third and has now ascended back into heaven at the right hand of God?

Is Jesus your savior? Has Jesus saved you? Do you have the forgiveness of sins in Him? Do you have everlasting life? Is Jesus your Savior and Lord? Have you believed him – confessed him – and followed him in baptism? May it be so!

Ah, hear me dear ones! If you will not believe that He is Christ, the son of God, then you shall surely die in your sins and will be punished for your sins forever. I urge you to flee from the wrath to come and come to

Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of His people. Think about it. By believing in Jesus Christ, the believer overcomes the world.

1 John 5:4-5 (KJV) For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even our faith.* **5** Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

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1 John 5:6-12 (KJV) *This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.* **7** *For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.* **8** *And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.* **9** *If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.* **10** *He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.* **11** *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.* **12** *He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.*

Do you have the Son of God? Do you have eternal life? Or, are you going to stay on in unbelief and die in your sins?