

## Prophecy and Fulfilment – Study Session 2 - Jesus' Life and Ministry

1. Jesus' ministry would begin in Galilee
2. Jesus' ministry would continue in Jerusalem.
3. Jesus' ministry would centre at the temple.
4. His salvation was for the Jews.
5. His salvation was also for the Gentiles.
6. His ministry required the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

### 1. Jesus' ministry would begin in Galilee

*Isaiah 9:1-2* But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of **Zebulun and the land of Naphtali**, but in the latter time he will make glorious **the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles**. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined.

Where are the lands of Zebulun and Naphtali? (See map from Session 1)

**Luke 4:14** Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee,

**Matthew. 4:12-17** Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in **Capernaum** by the sea, in the territory of **Zebulun and Naphtali**, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles-- the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time **Jesus began** to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Why is Matthew being so specific with these details? Matthew is frequently reminding his readers and hearers that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Jewish prophecies. Jesus states this truth twice in Luke's gospel:

**Luke 24:27** And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

**Luke 24:44** He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

## 2. Jesus' ministry would continue in Jerusalem

**Zechariah 9:9** Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter **Jerusalem!** Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

**Matthew 21:1-11** When they had **come near Jerusalem** and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, **Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**" The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

What does the donkey symbolise? If Jesus is King, "triumphant and victorious", why not come into the city on a horse? In ancient times kings would enter a city on a donkey if they were coming in peace. They would ride a horse if they were coming to conquer. This time, Jesus is riding a donkey. He comes to make peace with the enemies of God. The next time we see Jesus coming to Jerusalem is in revelation:

**Revelation 19:11-13** I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a **white horse**, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is **the Word of God**.

## 3. Jesus' ministry would centre at the temple.

**Psalms 69:9** for zeal for your house consumes me,

**Malachi 3:1** See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek **will suddenly come to his temple**. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight--indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

**Matthew 21:12** Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

The last page of this session has a list of the times Jesus is mentioned in relation to the temple. Jesus' ministry centred at the temple.

What made Jesus so disturbed at the buying and selling that was going on in the temple? He gives His reason in the following verse:

**Matthew 21:13** "It is written," he said to them, " 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a 'den of robbers.' "

Jesus came for the Gentiles – all the world – the Jews had turned the temple courts into a market place. The gentiles went there to pray.

#### 4. His salvation was for the Jews.....

**Jeremiah 50:6** My people have been **lost sheep**; their shepherds have led them astray, turning them away on the mountains; from mountain to hill they have gone, they have forgotten their fold.

**Matthew 10:6** but go rather to the **lost sheep** of the house of Israel.

**Ezekiel 37:11** Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'

**Matthew 15:24** He answered, "I was sent **only to the lost sheep** of the house of Israel."

#### 5. His salvation was also for the Gentiles.

**Deuteronomy 32:43** Rejoice, **O nations with his people**. For he will avenge the blood of his servants; and take vengeance on his enemies and make atonement for his land and people.

**Matthew 12:21** And in his name the **Gentiles will hope.**"

**Psalms 18:49** For this I will extol you, O LORD, **among the nations**, and sing praises to your name.

**John 7:35** The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? **Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?**

**Isaiah 42:1-4** Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to **the nations**. He

*will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed **until he has established justice in the earth**; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.*

**Acts 11:18** *When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given **even to the Gentiles** the repentance that leads to life."*

When scripture uses the word "nations," what does that mean? "Nations" is a collective name for the nations other than Israel.

## **6. His ministry will be anointed by the Holy Spirit**

**Psalm 45:7** *you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, **has anointed you** with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;*

**Matthew 3:16** *And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the **Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.***

**Isaiah 11:2-3** *The **spirit of the LORD shall rest on him**, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;*

**Luke 4:14** *Then Jesus, **filled with the power of the Spirit**, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.*

**Isaiah 61:1** *The **spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me**, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God.*

**Luke 4:18-19** *Then Jesus, **filled with the power of the Spirit**, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: '**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the Year of the Lord's favor.***

***John 3:34*** He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, **for he gives the Spirit without measure.**

***John 7:39*** Now he said this about the Spirit, **which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit**, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

If Jesus' ministry was anointed by the Holy Spirit, how must we approach our ministry?

## **Jesus at the Temple**

(Matthew 21:12; Mark 11:11, 15,16) Jesus entered the temple

(Matthew 21:14) The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them.

(Matthew 21:15) But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

(Matthew 21:23) Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, ...

(Matthew 24:1) Jesus left the temple and was walking away ...

(Matthew 26:55)...Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me.

(Mark 11:11) Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple..

(Mark 11:16) and (he) would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.

(Mark 11:27) They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts...

(Mark 12:35) While Jesus was teaching in the temple courts...

(Mark 12:41) Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury

(Mark 13:1) As he was leaving the temple,

(Mark 14:49) Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts...

(Luke 2:22... Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem (to the temple) to present him to the Lord

(Luke 2:46) After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

(Luke 4:9) The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.

(Luke 19:45) Then he entered the temple area and began driving out those who were selling.

(Luke 19:47) Every day he was teaching at the temple.

(Luke 20:1) One day as he was teaching the people in the temple courts...

(Luke 21:1) As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury.

(Luke 21:37) Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple,

(Luke 21:38) and all the people came early in the morning to hear him at the temple.

(Luke 22:53) Every day I was with you in the temple courts....

(John 2:14-15) In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves...So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both

(John 5:14) Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him...

(John 7:14) Not until halfway through the Feast did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach.

(John 7:28) Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out....

(John 8:2) At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts...

(John 8:20) He spoke these words while teaching in the temple area...

(John 8:59) At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

(John 10:23) and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's Colonnade.

(John 18:20 NIV) "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret.

