**The Ultimate Invitation: Seeing Jesus In Action**

Matthew 4:23-25 - September 15, 2019 - Pastor Jim Ammerman

Matthew 4:23-25

**23**And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. **24**So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. **25**And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Announcing: The King has finally arrived!

1. Jesus’ ***preaching*** and teaching ***disrupts*** evil (Mt. 4:23; Lk. 4:31-32)

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Luke 4:31-32 **31**And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, **32**and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority.

*The Kingdom of God is a great interruption to the forces of evil and the damning effects of sin on God’s creation. God’s Kingdom will overrule every power that would attempt to undermine and diminish the creative work of God. - David Schroeder*

Jesus was announcing that He was the King who had come to bring God’s promised and perfect kingdom. God’s Kingdom is open to everyone who puts their trust in the King. (Col. 1:13-14)

1. Jesus’ ***healing*** ***demonstrates*** His identity

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1. Jesus’ ministry of ***deliverance*** shows his ***total dominion***

Colossians 1:13-14 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, **14**in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

John 14:12-14

**12**“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. **13**Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14**If you ask me[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A12-14&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26671a)] anything in my name, I will do it.

**The Royal Background to the Good News of the Kingdom**

Galatians 4:4-7

**4**But when ***the fullness of time*** had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, **5**to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. **6**And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” **7**So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

1. **Specific promises fulfilled:**

**Promised Redemption** (Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Glorification)

Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Born of a virgin - (Mt. 1:23 = Isaiah 7:14); In Bethlehem - (Mt. 2:6 = Micha 5:2)

Out of Egypt - (Mt. 2:15 = Hosea 11:1); Slaughter of babies - (Mt. 2:18 = Jer. 31:15).

**Diverse linage** - Not just Jews but includes gentiles: Ruth the Moabites (Boaz Mt.1:5), Not just the righteous, Tamar (1:3), Rahab (1:5). Not just men, Bathsheba (Uriah’s wife 1:6). **“Thus the pedigree of the messiah includes the very kind of people He came to seek and save.”**

1. **Dramatic spiritual activity after 400 years of silence:**

**John the Baptist** conceived. Barron couple, Zechariah struck mute by angel Gabriel until after John’s birth (Luke 1:5-2:20). Filled with the Holy Spirit even before birth (Lk. 1:15). Revival at the Jordan as John baptizes sinners and even Pharisees, sins are being confessed (Mt. 3:6-10).

**Jesus’ conception**. Announced by Gabriel to Mary (Lk. 1:26-56). Angel speaking to Joseph in dreams: Take Mary as wife (Mt. 1:20); flee to Egypt (Mt. 2:13) and return from Egypt (Mt. 2:19-20).

1. **Jesus’s ministry’s dramatic beginning:**

Matthew 3:11-12

**11**“I [John the Baptist] baptize you with water for repentance. **But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.** **12**His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

***Jesus’ baptism:*** His Father affirms Him and the Spirit descends (Mt. 3:13-17).

***Tested in the wilderness***: Led by the Spirit to be tested by Satan (Mt. 4:1-11).