



Sermon Notes

Term – Autumn 2019

Series – Luke

Gathering & Date – the 10 & the 5, 8 September

Title – The Manifesto of Jesus (Part 1)

Preacher – Paul Langham

Reading – Luke 4:14-21

Introduction to series

- We’re going to spend 3 weeks looking at the first public words of Jesus as recorded by Luke
- This will help remind us of our own purpose as a church
- We will then go back and begin a journey through Luke’s gospel

For this, we will be using a couple of lenses

(1) Our own 6 couplets which describe the adventure & journey of faith we’re invited to join:

- Meeting God ... Finding Family
- Restoring Identity ... Releasing Purpose
- Empowering People ... Transforming Culture

(2) building on our teaching from last year, seeing how Jesus embodies and demonstrates the 5-fold ministry of Ephesians 4:

- Apostle
- Prophet
- Evangelist
- Shepherd
- Teacher

**** PLEASE BEGIN TO READ THE GOSPEL OF LUKE IN PREPARATION ****

Questions –

Compare Isaiah 61:1-2 with what Jesus reads out in Luke 4:

| Isaiah 61:1-2 | Luke 4:18-19 |
|--|--|
| <p>¹The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour and the day of vengeance of our God,</p> | <p>¹⁸ ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’</p> |

What is the significance for Luke of the fact that Jesus stops his reading mid-sentence, with the final note one of God’s favour rather than his vengeance?

What is the significance for Luke of the categories of people in receipt of the euangelion (gospel / good news): The ... Poor / Captives / Blind / Oppressed?

When you think of the couplets mentioned above ...

- Meeting God ... Finding Family
- Restoring Identity ... Releasing Purpose
- Empowering People ... Transforming Culture

... where are you on the journey of faith?

Jesus, in declaring that the 800-year old words of the prophet Isaiah are fulfilled as the people in that Synagogue in Nazareth on that particular sabbath listen (lit. 'in your ears'), acknowledges 3 things about his own ministry (and we'll look more deeply at this next week)

1. **The Spirit of the Lord is on me** – this was a very common phrase in the Old Testament and reminds us that Jesus lived and ministered before Pentecost, in the days when the Holy Spirit rested on certain people, in power, to enable their particular ministry

This reminds us that the Nature of God's Kingdom is supernatural. I used 4 more couplets to explore this. What do they mean to you?

Word and Spirit
Presence and Encounter
Identity and Restoration
Transformation and the Impossible

2. **He has anointed me** – again, a very common phrase. 3 types of person were anointed with oil in the Old Testament – priests, prophets and kings. Jesus is the perfect embodiment of each 'office', but (as we shall see next time) the fact that he was anointed is deeply significant

3. **He has sent me** – the first mention of 'apo stello' in Luke's gospel. Before Jesus commissioned his own apostles, he himself was commissioned and sent, by the Father.

Pray for one another

- That the Spirit of the Sovereign Lord would rest upon you in power this week
- That you would know the anointing of his Spirit
- That you would have the grace and strength to offer yourself as a 'sent one'