

Intro – 3rd SUN Ordinary Time – Jesus’ ministry begins with the call of the disciples

Just like He called them – He calls US

- From wherever you are – whatever you’re doing – we are all called
 - o James, John, Peter and Andrew were fishermen Blue Collar ALL
 - o Matthew was a tax collector White Collar ARE CALLED

1ST Reading – Isaiah

The text mentions Zebulon and Naphtali (also in the Gospel).

2 of the 12 tribes of Israel

Abraham → Isaac → Jacob (renamed Israel) → 12 sons (12 tribes) (Dan, Benjamin, Reuben, ...)

After the Exodus the nation of Israel divides up Canaan – each tribe takes a territory

Zebulon and Naphtali are the two northernmost tribes

Gradually Israel falls away from God and into sin

Babylon and Assyria invade from the North and Zebulon and Naphtali take the brunt

READ IT

When Babylon invades Zebulon and Naphtali are degraded

When Isaiah writes the nation of Israel is returning and Isaiah prophesies

“The Lord degraded the land of Zebulon and Naphtali”

BUT NOW

“Glorified”	Anguish is gone	Darkness is gone	Gloom is gone
People in darkness have seen light	Abundant JOY	Great REJOICING	

This can be our lot too

We sin just like Israel

We experience punishment just like Israel

We also have forgiveness, reconciliation, JOY – we are NOT doomed to despair

Our destiny is salvation thru forgiveness

PS27 “The Lord is my light and my salvation”

With the Lord whom should I fear, of whom should I be afraid

I believe I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living WHY (the verse)

1COR Remember last week? In the introduction Corinthians are called ‘Sanctified’, a ‘Holy people’

And I said, if THEY can be sanctified and holy WHY NOT US

Now Paul is going to start to address their problems (why he wrote the letter)

We have to ask - do these problems apply to us?

READ IT

So the Corinthians were having a problem with division in the Church

Some were following Paul, others Apollo, others Cephas. Paul says “What about Jesus”?

NOW THEN – this week has been dedicated to Christian Unity

Preachers all over the world are preaching on that theme

Anglicans Methodists Lutherans Baptists Catholics

Orthodox Presbyterians Congregationalists Evangelicals

IS CHRIST DIVIDED? THIS IS A SCANDAL

Paul would see this and scream – but the division is real

WWJD?

Well let’s read the Gospel and find out

MT 4 READ IT

Jesus retreats to the land of Zebulon and Naphtali (NORTH)
The land Isaiah called GLORIFIED after the return from exile
He begins to preach a one word message REPENT – and he begins to call disciples and they follow

Now first off the message – REPENT
WHY? – we need it. The division of our Church is sign enough

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DO? – Joy
The same emotions Zebulon and Naphtali experience upon their return
REPENTANCE casts out gloom, darkness, anxiety, fear
Replacing them with joy, light, confidence, and courage

With that one word message Peter, James, John, and Andrew leave their nets and follow Him
It says He went to their synagogues proclaiming the GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM – **what is that?**
Gospel = Good News Salvation thru forgiveness of sin (how) REPENT

AND Curing every disease and illness among the people (SIGN OF THE MESSIAH)
DISEASE – DIS EASE – the opposite of Ease and Relaxation (PEACE) is a DIS-EASE
JESUS heals – He restores peace

He did it then – He does it now
Jesus says REPENT – and follow me – and He says it to us
The Good News hasn't changed
Jesus hasn't changed
It is up to US to change – to REPENT, and let Him heal our DIS-EASE and find peace