

## John 20:

<sup>30</sup> And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

<sup>31</sup> But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah), the Son of God; and that believing you might have life through his name.

- Tonight John is going to introduce us to the testimony of two witnesses, a nobleman, the father of a boy healed, and a lame man healed by the pool of Bethesda. John once again pens stories of individuals from polar opposite social classes similar to Nicodemus and the woman at the well.





## John 4:

<sup>43</sup> Now after the two days He departed from there and went to Galilee. <sup>44</sup> For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country. <sup>45</sup> So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they also had gone to the feast.

- A prophet has no honor in his own country could mean 1 of 2 things or both.
- 1. Judea was his own country, he was of the tribe of Judea and registered in Bethlehem. It was in Jerusalem where Jesus was at odds with the religious rulers.
- 2. Nazareth and the nearby towns where he grew up.

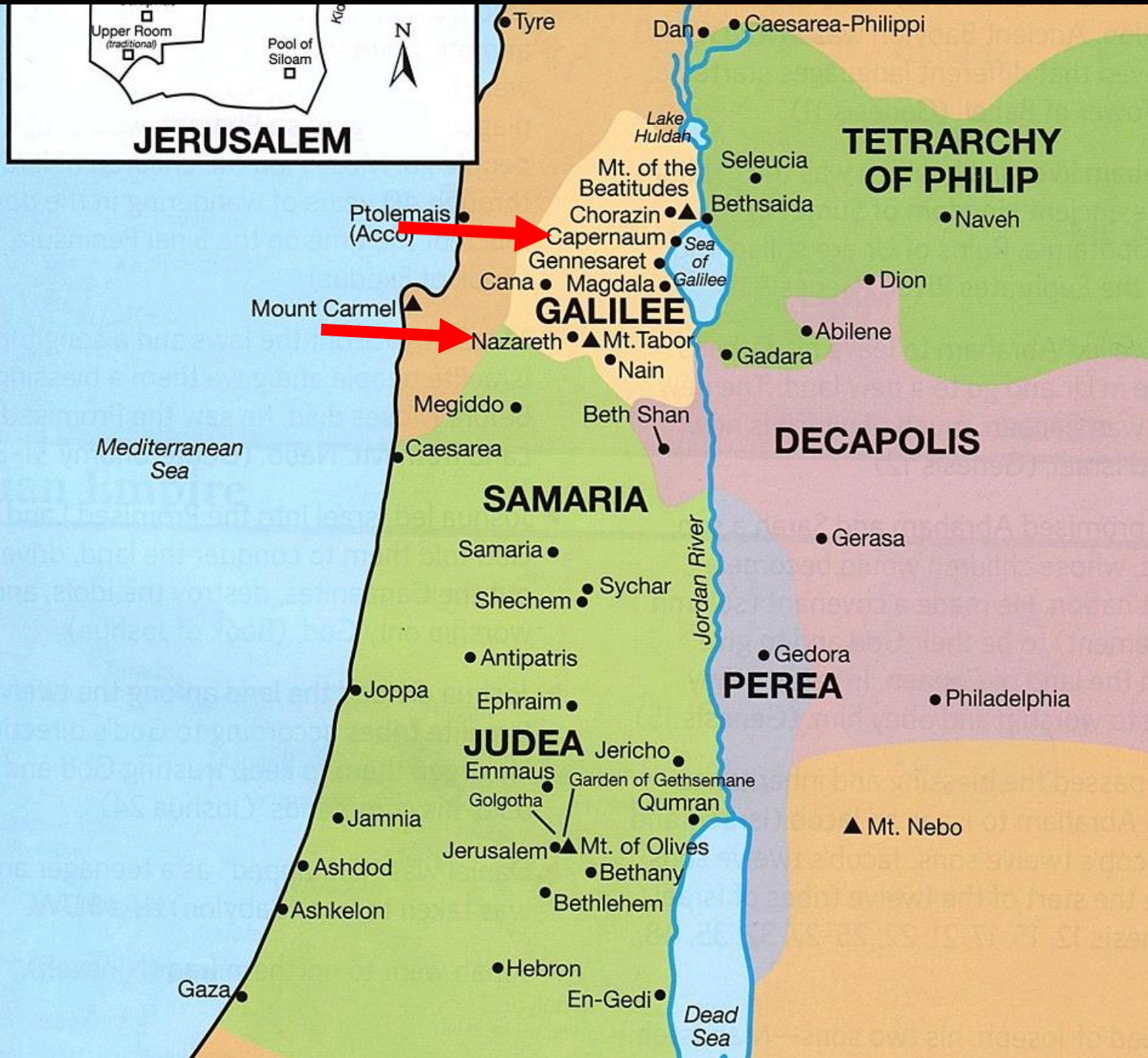
## Luke 4:

<sup>16</sup> So 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 to read. <sup>17</sup> And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to *the* captives And recovery of sight to *the* blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; <sup>19</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” (continued)

## Luke 4:

<sup>20</sup> Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. <sup>21</sup> And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” <sup>22</sup> So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?” <sup>23</sup> He said to them, “You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.’ ” <sup>24</sup> Then He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. (20 miles Capernaum to Nazareth)





## John 4:

<sup>46</sup> So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman (royal official in king Herod's government) whose son was sick at Capernaum (17 miles away). <sup>47</sup> When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and begged Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

- This man was desperate.
- He had heard about Jesus and the signs and wonders performed
- He was confident that if Jesus would just come and touch his son his son would be healed.



## John 4:

<sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you (KJV: “ye” plural form of thou) see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.”

- The belief that comes by seeing signs and wonders is a shallow belief
- Jesus was looking for a deeper faith, founded upon God’s Word
- Can’t build our faith on experience. Satan will deceive many in the last days with lying works and wonders
- You cannot build a strong faith upon feelings
- Feelings change radically. If our salvation was based on feelings, we would be saved today but lost tomorrow because I feel so depressed
- A strong faith must be built on the Word of God that doesn’t change

## John 4:

<sup>49</sup> The nobleman said to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies!”

- The man is still insisting that Jesus come to Capernaum and touch his son

<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your son lives.”

- Jesus gave the Word upon which to found his faith
- The nobleman was given the opportunity for a deeper faith
- So what is faith?

## Romans 10:

<sup>17</sup> So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

## Romans 12:

<sup>3</sup> For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

## Hebrews 11:

Now faith is the substance (realization) of things hoped for, the evidence (proof) of things not seen.

## Ephesians 2:

<sup>8</sup> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast.

- What is our part in faith?

## John 4:

<sup>50</sup> So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. <sup>51</sup> And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told *him*, saying, “Your son lives!” <sup>52</sup> Then he inquired of them the hour when he began to amend.

- The father believed the word of Jesus and acted on it

And they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” <sup>53</sup> So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” And he himself believed, and his whole household. <sup>54</sup> This again *is* the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.



- With God, distance does not matter
- Jesus healed a boy 17 miles away

## John 5:

<sup>1</sup> After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

- Jesus returned from Galilee to Jerusalem for a feast, but we really don't know which feast

<sup>2</sup> Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* (KJV: Market) a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda (the House of Mercy), having five porches.















## John 5:

<sup>3</sup> In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. <sup>4</sup> For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.

- There is tremendous power of God released by faith.
- What we believe is very important
- Faith triggers: Point of contact to release our faith. Let us look at some examples in scripture.

## Mark 5:

<sup>24</sup> And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him. <sup>25</sup> And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, <sup>26</sup> And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, <sup>27</sup> When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. <sup>28</sup> For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. <sup>29</sup> And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. <sup>30</sup> And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and

## Acts 5:

<sup>14</sup> And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup> so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.

## Acts 19:

<sup>11</sup> And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul (when he was at Ephesus): <sup>12</sup> So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.



- There is a difference in believing that “Yes God will do it sometime” and “Yes I believe God will do it now”
- Laying hands on sick gives a point of contact to trigger faith
- So that when the waters were stirred, the point of contact was provided

## John 5:

<sup>5</sup> Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” <sup>7</sup> The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.”

- The man answered why he couldn't be healed.
- When God addresses our places of impotence, we rehearse all the reasons why we can't be healed or delivered

## John 5:

<sup>8</sup> Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your bed and walk.” <sup>9</sup> And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked.

- Jesus gives him a verbal command that was impossible for him
- At this point the man could have continued in his explanations
- However, the lame man chose to obey and was healed
- Later we find out that the lame man did not know who Jesus was
- When we will to obey what is to us an impossible command from God, God will give to us all that is necessary to obey it
- What is God wanting to heal you from today?

## John 5:

And that day was the Sabbath. <sup>10</sup> The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, “It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed.” <sup>11</sup> He answered them, “He who made me well said to me, ‘Take up your bed and walk.’ ”

- The Jews were not stirred by this man being healed. They were indignant that he had broken their Sabbath rules



## John 5:

<sup>12</sup> Then they asked him, “Who is the Man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?” <sup>13</sup> But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in *that* place. <sup>14</sup> Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.” <sup>15</sup> The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

- When was the last time that the lame man had been in the temple?
- Has anyone here witnessed, beyond a doubt, a physical healing of God?

