



SUNDAY CLASS

1/4/09

Key Verses: Matthew 13: 13:52-58

Matthew 13:53 (New International Version)

A Prophet Without Honor

53When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from there.

Matthew 13:54 (New International Version)

54Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked.

"We have here Christ in his own country. He went about doing good, yet left not any place till he had finished his testimony there at that time. His own countrymen had rejected him once, yet he came to them again."

****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE*

Mark 6:1-6 (New International Version)

A Prophet Without Honor

1Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! 3Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph,^[a] Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

4Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor." 5He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6And he was amazed at their lack of faith.

Luke 4:16-30 (New International Version)

16He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. 17The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place

where it is written:

18"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,19to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."20Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, 21and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."22All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. 23Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.' "24"I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown.25I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land.26Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon.27And there were many in Israel with leprosy^[b] in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."28All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this.29They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. 30But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.



"The people in his own hometown questioned the power and authority of Jesus."

Mark 6:1-6 - © 1999 by Standard Publishing

****Note, Christ does not take refusers at their first word, but repeats his offers to those who have often repulsed them.*

****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE*

Matthew 2:23 (New International Version)

23and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

Matthew 4:23 (New International Version)

Jesus Heals the Sick

23Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Matthew 7:28 (New International Version)

28When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching

Matthew 13:55 (New International Version)

55"Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas?"

Two things they upbraided him with.

1. His want of academical education. They owned that he had wisdom, and did mighty works; but the question was, Whence he had them: for they knew that he was not brought up at the feet of the rabbin: he had never been at the university, nor taken his degree, nor was called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

***Note, Mean and prejudiced spirits are apt to judge of men by their education, and to enquire more into their rise than into their reasons.

"Whence has this man these mighty works? Did he come honestly by them? Has he not been studying the black art?" Thus they turned that against him which was really for him; for if they had not been wilfully blind, they must have concluded him to be divinely assisted and commissioned, who without the help of education gave such proofs of extraordinary wisdom and power.

2. The meanness and poverty of his relations, v. 55, 56.

(1.) They upbraid him with his father. Is not this the carpenter's son? Yes, it is true he was reputed so: and what harm in that? No disparagement to him to be the son of an honest tradesman. They remember not (though they might have known it) that this carpenter was of the house of David (Lu. 1:27), a son of David (ch. 1:20); though a carpenter, yet a person of honor. Those who are willing to pick quarrels will overlook that which is worthy and deserving, and fasten upon that only which seems mean. Some sordid spirits regard no branch, no not the Branch from the stem of Jesse (Isa. 11:1), if it be not the top branch.

(2.) They upbraided him with his mother; and what quarrel have they with her? Why, truly, his mother is called Mary, and that was a very common name, and they all knew her, and knew her to be an ordinary person; she was called Mary, not Queen Mary, nor Lady Mary, nor so much as Mistress Mary, but plain Mary; and this is turned to his reproach, as if men had nothing to be valued by but foreign extraction, noble birth, or splendid titles; poor things to measure worth by.

(3.) They upbraided him with his brethren, whose names they knew, and had them ready enough to serve this turn; James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas, good men but poor men, and therefore despised; and Christ for their sakes. These brethren, it is probable, were Joseph's children by a former wife; or whatever their relation was to him, they seem to have been brought up with him in the same family. And therefore of the calling of three of these, who were of the twelve, to that honor (James, Simon, and Jude, the same with Thaddeus), we read not particularly, because they needed not such an express call into acquaintance with Christ who had been the companions of his youth.

(4.) His sisters too are all with us; they should therefore have loved him and respected him the more, because he was one of themselves, but therefore they despised him. They were offended in him: they stumbled at these stumbling-stones, for he was set for a sign that should be spoken against, Lu. 2:34; Isa. 8:14.”

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

[Mark 6:3 \(New International Version\)](#)

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph,^[a] Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

[Luke 3:23 \(New International Version\)](#)

23Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph,

[John 6:42 \(New International Version\)](#)

42They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

[James 1:1 \(New International Version\)](#)

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:
Greetings.

[Jude 1 \(New International Version\)](#)

Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James,
To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by^[a] Jesus Christ:

Matthew 12:46 (New International Version)

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

46 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him.

John 7:5 (New International Version)

5 For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

Matthew 13:56 (New International Version)

Aren't all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?"

Matthew 13:57 (New International Version)

And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown and in his own house is a prophet without honor."

Jeremiah 11:21 (New International Version)

21 "Therefore this is what the LORD says about the men of Anathoth who are seeking your life and saying, 'Do not prophesy in the name of the LORD or you will die by our hands'—

Jeremiah 12:6 (New International Version)

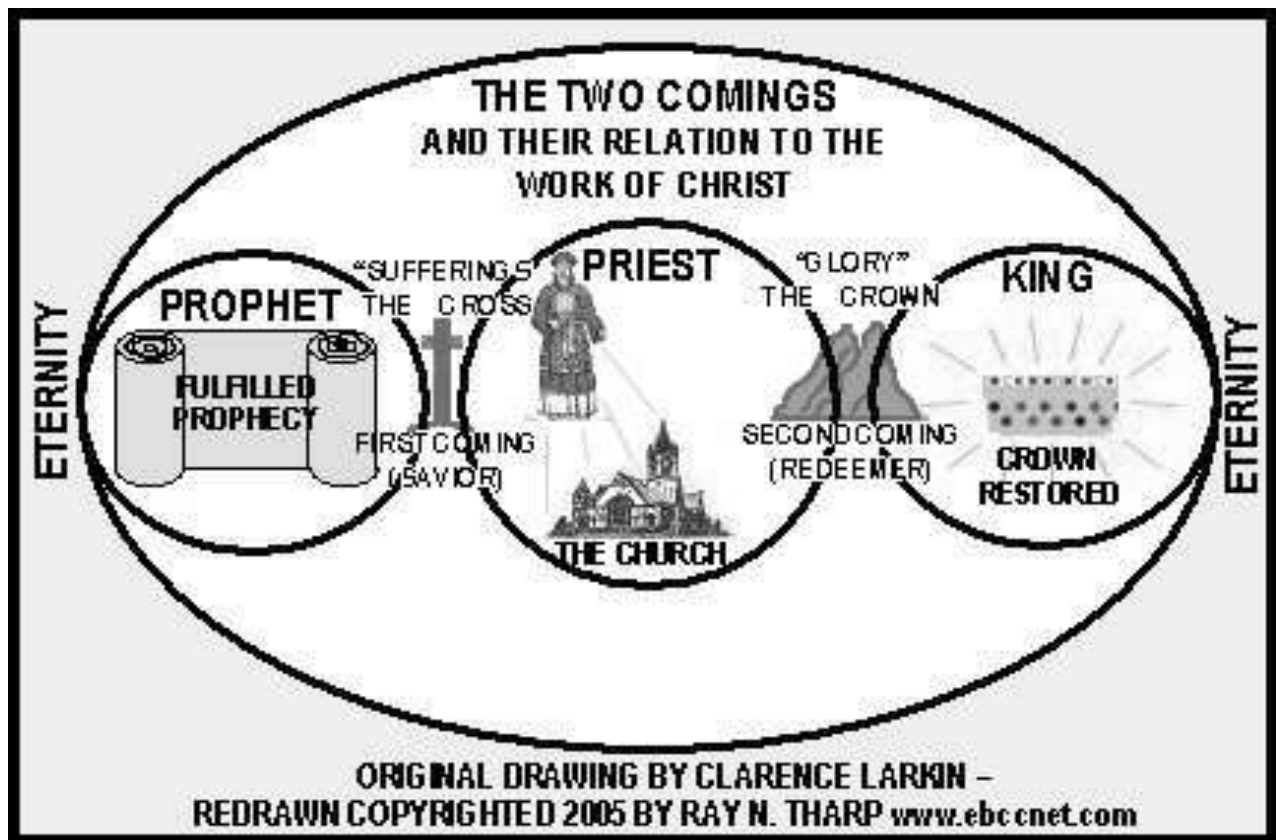
6 Your brothers, your own family—
even they have betrayed you;
they have raised a loud cry against you.
Do not trust them,
though they speak well of you.

Luke 4:24 (New International Version)

24 "I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown.

John 4:44 (New International Version)

44 (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.)



Matthew 13:58 (New International Version)

58 And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

“A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country.

****Note, (1.) Prophets should have honor paid them, and commonly have; men of God are great men, and men of honor, and challenge respect. It is strange indeed if prophets have not honor.*

(2.) Notwithstanding this, they are commonly least regarded and revered in their own country, nay, and sometimes are most envied. Familiarity breeds contempt.

2. It did for the present (to speak with reverence), in effect, tie his hands: He did not many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.

****Note, Unbelief is the great obstruction to Christ's favors.*

All things are in general possible to God (ch. 19:26), but then it is to him that believes as to the particulars, Mk. 9:23. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation, but then it is to every one that believes, Rom. 1:16. So that if mighty works be not wrought in us, it is not for want of power or grace in Christ, but for want of faith in us. By grace ye are saved, and that is a mighty work, but it is through faith, Eph. 2:8.”

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