



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Galilee to the Cross

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In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Luke, in chapter four, describes a hostile witness, tempter and adversary, the devil. After Jesus had spent forty days and nights in the wilderness and not having food during that time and under unsuccessful continual temptations or testing by the devil, Jesus returned to Galilee to begin His earthly ministry. (Luke 4: 14-15 NASB)

“And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district. And He began teaching in their synagogues and was praised by all.” (Luke 4:14-15)

Jesus returned to Galilee. Additionally, Matthew records, “Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee;” (Mt. 4:12; Mk. 1:14) Sometime after the testing in the wilderness, south of Jerusalem, Jesus returned to Galilee, north of Jerusalem (28-29AD). While the testing in the desert had taken a physical toll, Jesus' spirit was strong. Testing either makes a person stronger or weaker and the outcome depends on how the test or temptation is fought. Paul later records that, “our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.” (Eph 6:12) If fought alone and by one's own power the result is weakness and if fought relying on God strength and His power the result is strength.(Eph 6:10) After Jesus testing, He was stronger, He fought from power found in God's Word and through the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus was in the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus started His earthly ministry filled with the Spirit. In prior verses Luke records that while the devil had tempted Jesus in every manner, the devil left Him until an opportune time. The battle was not over with the devil and his family.

Jesus prepared daily and received power for the expected battles by being Spirit filled and communing with the Father.

Jesus became known in the local area. Luke records that news of Jesus was spreading in the local area, because His message was directed to all the people, not just the rich and powerful. Jesus was different.

Jesus taught in the local synagogues. Jesus began His ministry and taught where the Jewish people gathered for worship, the synagogues. Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit, spoke and taught from a position of authority.

Jesus was praised by all. Jesus spoke and taught the truth. While Luke records that Jesus taught in the synagogues and was praised by all, it was not long before those that praised Him turned on Him and would attempt to drive out of the city and kill Him (4:29-30). Similar incidents happen in His ministry where He would escape premature death.

Galilee to the Cross. Just like at the end of His earthly ministry, many at the start sang praises and “Hosanna” and wanted to crown Him Lord and King, the next day joined the people to crucify Him.

For Your Consideration:

- The walk from Galilee to the Cross for Jesus was a physically and spiritually challenging journey. Are you Spiritually filled to fight the battles that come your way? (Eph 6:10-20)
- Are you ready to praise and crown Him as Lord and Savior or deny Him as Lord and Savior?
- Do you daily commune (pray) with God and are you pondering His Word?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44