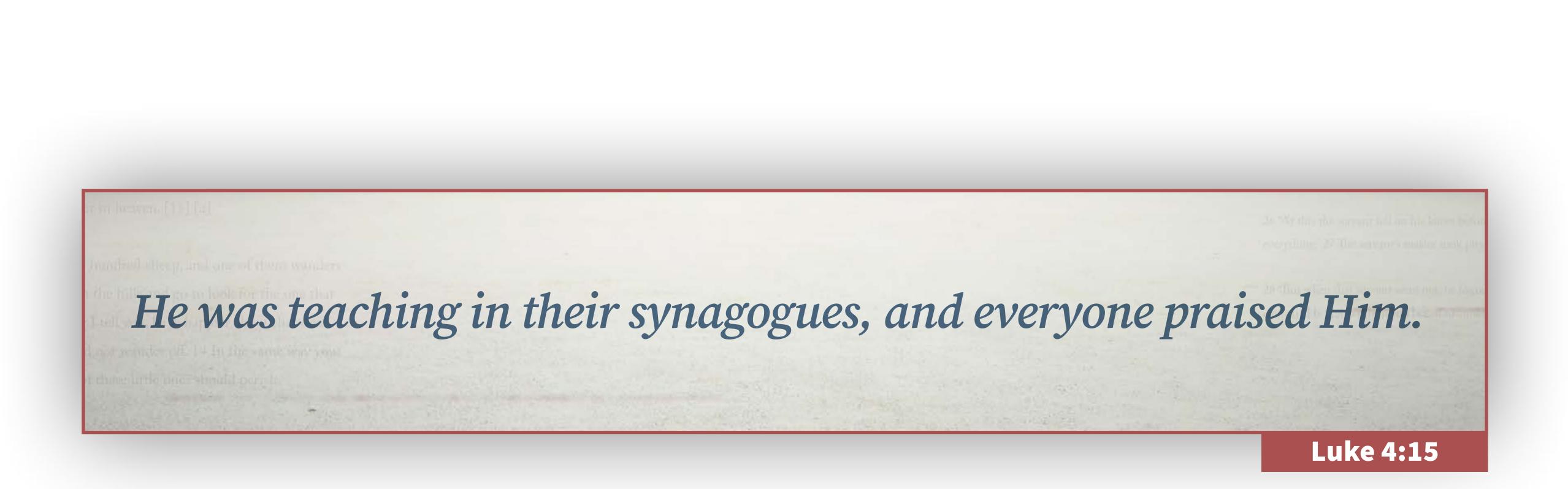
Revealing True Colors

PASTOR MIKE YODER • LUKE 4:14-30



Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through the whole countryside.



He went to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day He went into the synagogue, as was His custom. He stood up to read,

and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. Unrolling it, He found the place where it is written:

"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,"



Then 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.

He began by saying to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

All spoke well of Him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from His lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to Me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell Me, 'Do here in Your hometown what we have heard that You did in Capernaum.'"

"Truly I tell you," He continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown."

"I 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."

"Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon."

"And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed — only Naaman the Syrian."



They 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 off the cliff.

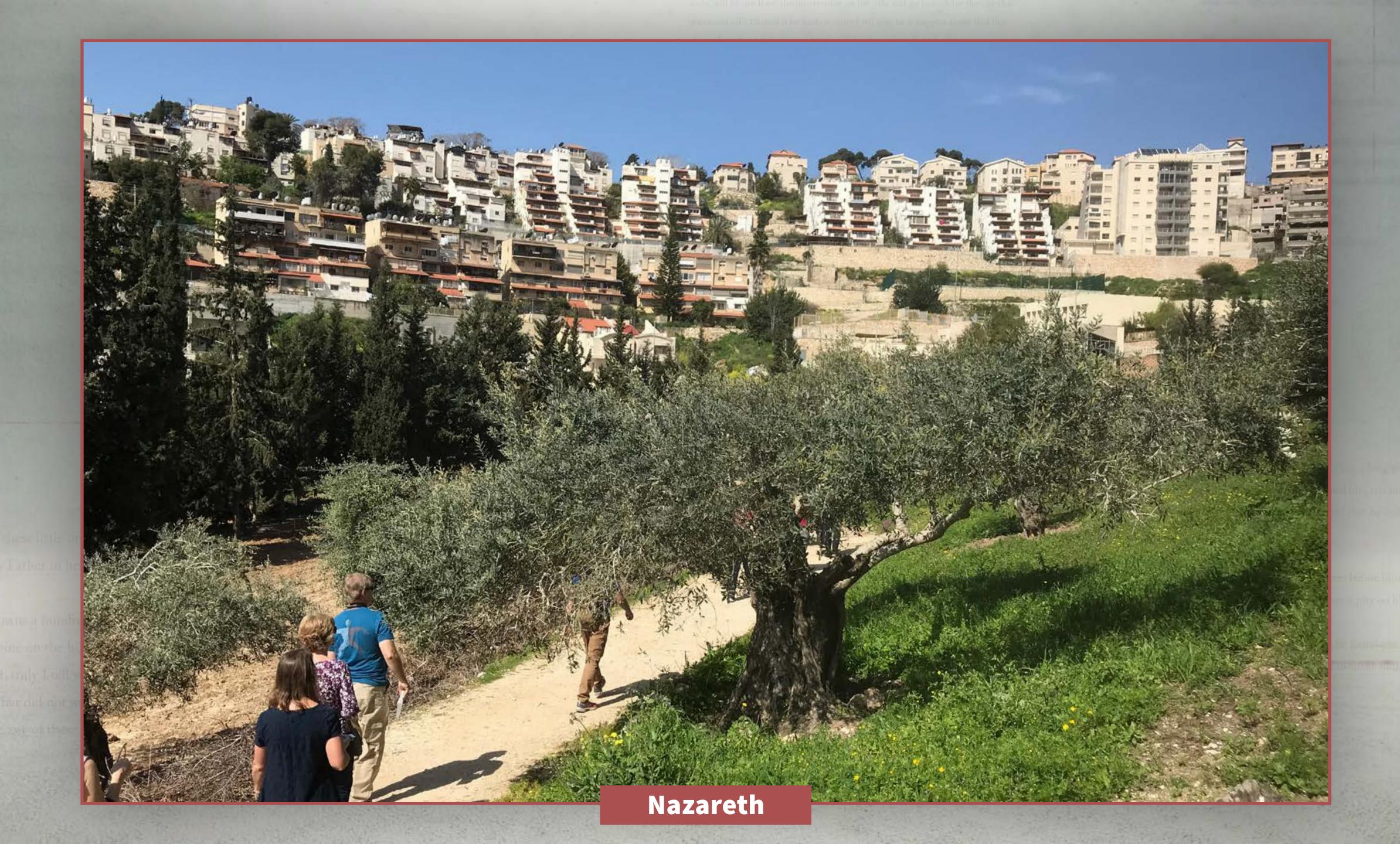


Acclamation: Jesus is the hero who fulfills Messianic prophecy. (4:14-22)



Jesus shows the value of people in need.







It is the poor in general who sense their need in the greatest way and, as a result, respond most directly and honestly to Jesus...

Their material deprivation often translates into spiritual sensitivity, humility, and responsiveness to God's message of hope.

Jesus did seek to create a new community of people before God who would be called out from the ways of the world and would reflect a different, even revolutionary, way of life to the world...

The Gospel does have societal implications, not so much directly for society, as it does for how the redeemed community approaches humans and social structures.

The primary means of setting people free in whatever their social or political circumstance is the proclamation of the Gospel...

But that means the Gospel has to be so real a Gospel that it addresses people in their social and political position. The Gospel cannot be abstracted from the real conditions of the people it addresses.

Familiarity is why a lot of people don't recognize Jesus as their Messiah. They've had just enough Bible to make them think they know, so they're not looking any deeper.

Condemnation: Jesus is the scapegoat as familiarity breeds contempt. (4:23–30)



Jesus exposes the arrogance of people in sin.





Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands) —

remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Everyone wants a prophet who will speak to the world. No one wants a prophet who will rebuke them.

They love truth when it enlightens them, but hate truth when it accuses them.

To honor Jesus, you have to receive Him as He really is: the Messiah and Son of God who alone rescues sinners from God's wrath and makes those same sinners righteous in God's sight.

Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in Him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue;



Jesus is the Savior we need, not the Savior we want.

