

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

RLJ-1903

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PART 10: THE BIRTH OF JESUS' MINISTRY

THE BEGINNING OF JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY

Once Jesus returned from the Devil's temptations, He was informed that John the Baptist had been arrested. This news prompted him to walk northeast until He came to the city of Capernaum. **Matthew 4:12-13**

Jesus had not yet selected any disciples and walked to Capernaum alone. The Son of God must have thought about the virtual time run prior to the creation when He was together with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit designing the creation in their giant super computer. Some events were removed from his memory since it was imperative that Satan be ignorant of the redemption plan and how it would be carried out. **1 Corinthians 2:7-8**

Jesus knew that He would return to earth someday as the King of kings and Lord of lords but did not possess any knowledge of the details. **Matthew 24:30-36**

When Joseph and Mary brought the God-man to Galilee from Egypt as a five-year-old boy, the people did not know that the Son of God was inside the body of the little boy. He showed great wisdom at a young age, but was forced to stay in the body as it matured. **Luke 2:40**

As Jesus walked to Capernaum, He more than likely would have chuckled at the memory of being in the temple at twelve years old. He sought out discussion with learned men and bedazzled them with His knowledge of God and history of the Jewish people. For three days He openly expressed Himself and the knowledge He possessed until Mary and Joseph returned and scolded him for staying behind. **verses 41-52**

The God-man waited 18 years to start the redemptive work He was sent to earth to fulfill since 30 was considered the legal age among the Jews. This time was spent patiently waiting as He worked with Joseph to learn the trade of carpentry. **Mark 6:1-3**

The Sea of Galilee is located in northern Israel with the Jordan River flowing in from the north and exiting on the south side of the sea.

When the twelve tribes of Israel were allotted their land by Moses, the tribe of Naphtali was given the land west of the sea, with the tribe of Zebulun further to the west. By making Capernaum his headquarters for His Galilee ministry, Jesus fulfilled two prophecies spoken by the prophet Isaiah. **Isaiah 9:1-2; Matthew 4:14-16**

There were a number of cities and villages in the province of Galilee that Jesus visited. He raised a dead man in Nain. **Luke 7:11-16**

The city of Nazareth – where Jesus grew up – was located 11 miles north of Nain. **Matthew 2:23**



The city of Cana – where Jesus turned water into wine – was 6.2 miles north of Nazareth. **John 2:1-11**

These three cities were in the Galilee hillside. To move from Cana to Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples had to return to Nazareth, then on to Magdala at the edge of Sea of Galilee. The distance from Nazareth to Magdala was 25 miles. The road then followed the sea and the next village north of Magdala was Gennesaret, a distance of about five miles. The city of Capernaum was another five miles to the north. **John 2:12**

Jesus spoke about the city of Chorazin, inland from the Sea of Galilee. The distance to Chorazin from Capernaum was 5.7 miles. The apostles did not record of any meetings in this village, but it is obvious that Jesus had been there and performed miracles since He later cursed this village. **Matthew 11:20-24**

The city of Bethsaida was located on the east side of the Sea of Galilee, six miles from Capernaum. To travel from Capernaum to Bethsaida meant crossing the Jordan River, which fed into the sea on the north side. It is interesting that the apostles Peter, Andrew and Philip were from Bethsaida. **John 1:43-44**

THREE YEARS OF MINISTRY

During the virtual time run, the Godhead carefully examined the area known as the Promised Land. They knew that Jesus would eventually encounter the Kabbalistic leadership led by the high priest in Jerusalem. They looked at the small cities and villages surrounding the Lake of Galilee. They knew the people living there were simple farmers, fishermen, and craftsmen who were conservatively anchored in the Old Testament.

It should be obvious to every Christian that the Godhead had carefully planned – before the foundation of the world – where Jesus' ministry was going to be centered. The Sea of Galilee and its surrounding cities were away from the Jewish leadership in Jerusalem and from the Roman occupying government. Jesus made some trips to Jerusalem during the Passover, but He always returned to Galilee, with the exception of His last journey to Jerusalem.

It was in the region of Galilee that Jesus laid the foundation of the church even though the majority of the Galileans walked away at the end. **John 6:59-66**

The apostles were the foundation of the church – not the crowd – and in Galilee He had the freedom to teach and show these twelve men – along with the 70 others – the power of God.

With the exception of Judas Iscariot, everyone graduated on the day of Pentecost when the church was born in fire. **Acts 2:1-4**

PICKING HIS FIRST APOSTLES

Jesus knew from the virtual time run the names of the apostles and exactly where to find them. He walked down to the sea shore where Peter and Andrew were casting out their nets. The God-man spoke their names and instructed them to follow him. Even though they did not know Jesus, the Holy Spirit immediately touched them and they left their boat and gear and followed the Son of God. **Matthew 4:17-18-20**

SUMMARY

I started preaching on the Gospel of Matthew in October of 2020, but I got restless when I came to the ninth sermon because I felt something missing. I received a revelation from the Holy Spirit as I prayed and thought about the matter.

In reading the Bible, it is easy to see that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit clearly knew in advance what was going to take place in the creation. But how did they know all the details? "They knew because they are God" or "God knows everything" simply wasn't good enough for me.

It was then I was shown the virtual time run that had taken place before the creation ever began. Angels and humans have a free will, and the only way for the Godhead to know how things would play out would be to allow these created beings to use their free will in a virtual time run.

This revelation gave birth to the series, "The Origin Story of Jesus," spanning 100 messages covering eternity past to the incarnation of Jesus. The concept of a virtual time run shows the awesome power of God to run a simulation so realistic that it is being mimicked right now.

I have studied the Scriptures for many decades and this revelation goes a long way to explaining many of God's statements in the Bible. It took a disclosure from the Holy Spirit to help me see it, God's Word was not changed, and the virtual time run explains why actions by angels and humanity elicited certain reactions from the Lord down the timeline.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?

PALESTINE IN THE TIME OF JESUS

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