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The Preaching Activities of Jesus Christ

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THE PREACHING ACTIVITIES OF JESUS CHRIST

On five specific occasions Jesus went out on an extended preaching mission.

- First tour

"And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all" (Lk. 4:14-15).

A. This tour took place shortly after His temptation in the wilderness (Lk. 4:1-13).

B. All His preaching missions apparently were centered in the Galilean area and not in Judea and Jerusalem. The reason for this seemed to be the intense hostility He experienced whenever He was in Jerusalem (see Jn. 10:31; 11:8).

- Second tour

"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them. And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan." (Mt. 4:23-25)

This was undoubtedly His most successful crusade, with people flocking to hear Him from Galilee, Judea, Syria, and the surrounding country.

- Third tour

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people" (Mt. 9:35)

A. Here we are told the motivation prompting all His tours:

"But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd" (Mt. 9:36).

B. This tour also has a command attached to it:

"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." (Mt. 9:37-38)

- Fourth tour

"And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities" (Mt. 11:1).

A. Just prior to this tour our Lord had sent out His twelve disciples (Mt. 10).

B. During this tour He is visited by two messengers sent by the imprisoned John the Baptist (Mt. 11:2).

- Fifth tour

"And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance" (Lk. 8:1-3).

These women, converted during His final preaching crusade would later render fruitful service to their Savior:

A. They were present at the crucifixion (Mt. 27:56; Mk. 15:40-41; Lk. 23:49, 55).

B. They were present at the resurrection (Lk. 24:1-11).

C. Mary Magdalene was the first human being to see the risen Christ (Jn. 20:11-18).