

Questions for Gospel Harmony #59-60

Matthew 9.27-34

1. What did these men mean by calling Jesus, “son of David”? What did Jesus demand to know from them before He healed them? Why does Matthew record no response to this second accusation of collusion with Satan? (Matthew 9.27-34)

Special Question: Why did Jesus command people not to share who He was or what He had done at this time? Why do the Gospels record so many examples of Him giving this command only to be ignored?

3. Explain the proverb: "Physician heal yourself." Why would they say this to Jesus? Why does a prophet have no honor in his own country? Why does Jesus mention the widow of Zeraphath and Naaman the Leper? Why did this cause the crowd to be angry and to try to kill Jesus? What limited Jesus miracle working in that area? Where did Jesus go after he left Nazareth? (Matthew 13.58; Mark 6.5-6; Luke 4.23-31)

Special Question: Did Jesus require faith on the part of those whom He healed or His audience to work miracles in front of them? If not, how are we to understand passages like this?

Matthew 13.54-58; Mark 6.1-6; Luke 4.16-31

Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son? Is this not the carpenter's son; is this not the carpenter? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?" So they were offended at Him. He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.' A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house. But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way. Now He could do no mighty work there because of their unbelief, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching. Then He went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and was teaching them on the Sabbaths.