

Holiness: Produces Boldness

Luke 4: 20-30

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”

²³ He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’”

²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown.

²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;

²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.

²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.

³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

I. Holiness Produces Boldness

A. Three Major Points

1. Confidence in Your Calling or Walk
2. Confidence in Speaking What the Spirit Reveals
3. Confidence in Revealing Truth Will Incite Negative Reactions

II. Confidence in Your Calling (Luke 4: 20-22)

A. Scriptural evidence (Luke 4: 18-19 is a reference from Isaiah 61: 1-2)

B. Spoken confidence with the use of scripture (v. 20)

1. Spokesmen and women will gain attention

C. Various responses from the congregation (v. 22)

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1. All **spoke well** of him and **were amazed** at the gracious words that came from His mouth. **They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”**
 - a. *spoke well*
 - 1) Real meaning in Greek = emartyroun = were bearing witness
 - 2) witness = (n) observer or eyewitness
 - 3) witness = (v) see an event; have knowledge from personal experience
 - b. *were amazed*
 - 1) real meaning in Greek = ethaumazon = marveled/wonder
 - 2) a filling of wonder or marvel = experiencing a thing that causes your mentality to shift due to the experience being extraordinary or different
 - c. **They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”**
 - 1) Contrast between “All” and “They”
 - a) Luke 4:22 – ²² **All** spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. **They** said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”
 - b) Mark 6:2-3 – ² “**many** who heard him were astounded. **They** said, “Where did this man get all this? What wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us? And **they** took offense at Him.
 - c) Matt. 13:54-57 – ⁵⁴ “**they** were astounded and said, “Where did this man get wisdom and these deeds of power? ⁵⁵ Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? ⁵⁶ And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all this? ⁵⁷ And **they** took offense at him.
 - d. Gleanings
 - 1) Everyone complimented and gave honor to him
 - 2) Everyone was in shock of his speech and wisdom
 - 3) Many (not everyone) questioned the nature of the substance of his wisdom and speech
 - a) Derivative of authority in Luke 2: 41-52 (Jesus in the temple learning)
 - 4) Many were jealous of his power, wisdom, and grace (because he is one of us and now different)
 - a) Jealousy leads to questioning authority
 - 5) You stand out (not to be divisive, but rather different)
 - 6) People talk about you and your uniqueness (either positively or negatively)
 - 7) People change for the better or worse
 - 8) You challenge the majority

III. Confidence in Speaking What the Spirit Reveals (Luke 4: 23-27)

- A. Showcases their heart (v. 23)
 1. Unbelief
 2. Unbelief has consequences: lack of miracles (grace); lack of Jesus
 3. Jealousy – others receive grace and they do not
- B. Showcases their exclusive and rigid spirit (v. 24)

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1. Inclusivity denied due to control, jealousy, and unbelief
2. Rigidity causes people to see a person or thing as the expectation created in their mind
 - a. Jesus = carpenter (nothing else)

C. Example 1 of a prophet not welcomed into his hometown (v. 25-26)

1. Story of Elijah and the widow (1 Kings 17: 8-24)
 - a. God sent Elijah to no Israelite, but to a Sidonite women

D. Example 2 of a prophet not welcomed into his hometown (v. 27)

1. Story of Elisha and Naaman (2 Kings 5)
 - a. God sent Elijah to no Israelite leper, but to a Syrian general

IV. Confidence in Revealing Truth Will Incite Negative Reactions (Luke 4: 28-30)

A. Anger, jealousy, pride and offense revealed (vv. 28-29)

1. The underlying issues of these people came to the forefront when Jesus exposed their hearts
2. Incited violent action due to their pride

B. The Spirit will give you the revelation to leave successfully (v. 30)

V. Conclusion

A. Boldness will produce confidence in your walk/calling

B. Boldness will produce an unction to speak what the Holy Spirit reveals

C. Boldness will cause others to react to your speaking

D. Other Recommendations

1. You cannot be afraid
2. You must have faith the size of a mustard seed
3. You must be strong to remain firm in what you know in God
4. When opposition occurs, you must NEVER back down from your faith in God
5. You must walk in love, even when others persecute you
 - a. Matt 5: 11-12 – ¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in Heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
 - b. Matt 5: 39 – But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also