



## Today's Message

Date: April 5, 2020  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: *A Prophet with Authority*

Text: Luke 4:31–44 (ESV)

<sup>31</sup> And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, <sup>32</sup> and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. <sup>33</sup> And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> "Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." <sup>35</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. <sup>36</sup> And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!" <sup>37</sup> And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

<sup>38</sup> And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. <sup>39</sup> And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

<sup>40</sup> Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. <sup>41</sup> And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

<sup>42</sup> And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, <sup>43</sup> but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." <sup>44</sup> And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Introduction: After his own neighbors rejected him in Nazareth (4:14-30), Jesus went to one of the larger cities in Galilee. This passage of Scripture recounts the events of a single Sabbath day when he taught in the synagogues. As the day unfolds, we “witness” four of the miraculous signs that would mark his ministry. But Luke clearly shows us that Jesus’ miracles served a greater purpose.

**I. Setting: Jesus continued his ministry tour in Galilee. 31- 32**

- A. He honored the Sabbath.
- B. He taught with authority.

**II. Activity: Jesus confirmed his message by exercising authority over demons and illness. 33-41**

- A. Jesus silenced and cast out a demon in the synagogue (Luke’s first recorded miracle). 33-37
- B. Jesus healed Peter’s sick mother-in-law. 38-39
- C. Jesus healed many others who were sick. 40
- D. Jesus silenced and cast out many demons. 41

Excursus on the nature and purpose of miracles.

**III. Summary: Jesus left a successful work to continue his ministry tour. 42-44**

- A. His ministry was “word” focused. 42-43
- B. His message was intended for all to hear. 44

**Today’s take-home truth: Jesus verified his message through miraculous deeds; “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29)**