

VV STUDY NOTES: 5th June 2021

Andrew Gebbie

We have already discussed Jesus at the Wedding in Cana, the cleansing of the temple at Passover, baptising with his disciples in Judea, the visit with Nicodemus, and the encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well in Sychar. He had disciples with him throughout this period which is all based on John gospel. John's Gospel does not record the calling of the disciple in Galilee.

Jesus in Galilee: Matt 4:12, Mark 1:14-15, Luke 4:14-15, John 4:43-45, Luke 4:15-30

Matt 4:12-13 (*Matthew records the calling of the disciples, AFTER this visit to Nazareth.*)

¹² When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. ¹³ He went first to Nazareth, then left there and moved to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee. ----

¹⁸ One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁹ Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” ²⁰ And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Mark 1: 14-15 (*Mark records the calling of the disciples, AFTER John is in prison.*)

¹⁴ **After John was put in prison**, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news! -

¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him.

Luke 4:14-15

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

John 4:43-45

⁴³ After the two days he left for Galilee. ⁴⁴ (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) ⁴⁵ When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there.

- Is there a difference between declaring an interest in being a disciple, and being specifically invited to be part of the team?
- Can you think of modern parallels to what happened with the choosing of the Apostles?
- What Questions come to your mind when you contemplate how Jesus went about this task?
- Peter was involved from shortly after Jesus was baptized. Why was the incident at the Sea of Galilee of such importance?

Luke 4:16-30

¹⁶ **He went to Nazareth**, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “‘Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.’

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. ‘Isn’t this Joseph’s son?’ they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, ‘Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’ ‘

²⁴ “Truly I tell you,’ he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.’

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

QUESTIONS

When you look at the underlined section what questions do they trigger in your mind?

Re: discrepancies:

1. Do the apparent contradictions, undermine the reliability of the gospel accounts, or do they validate their integrity?
2. Are the discrepancies consistent with the idea of verbal inspiration?
3. What do the discrepancies tell us about the nature of biblical inspiration?

Numerous books have been written by individuals who became Christians, because of the discrepancies in the accounts of the resurrection of Jesus.

One of the latest was written by **Val Grieve “Your Verdict on the Empty Tomb”** available at Amazon. He is a lawyer who abandoned his atheism and became a Christian.

He invites the reader to imagine they are on a Jury examining the issue of the resurrection, based on commonly accepted legal principles. The discrepancies, he argues demonstrate that there was no evidence of any collusion to fabricate a lie. The records clearly show the honesty of the witnesses. He quotes from. A compelling read!