

A Day In the Life of Jesus

Mark 1:21-34

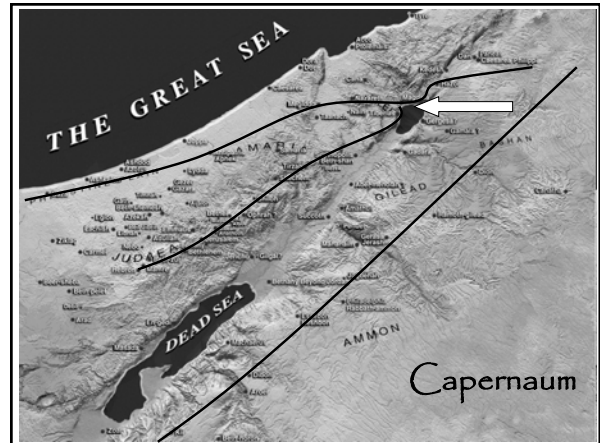


Mark 1

- 1:14-15 – the essence of His message
- 1:16-20 – the core of His disciples
- 1:21-34 – an overview of His ministry in Galilee

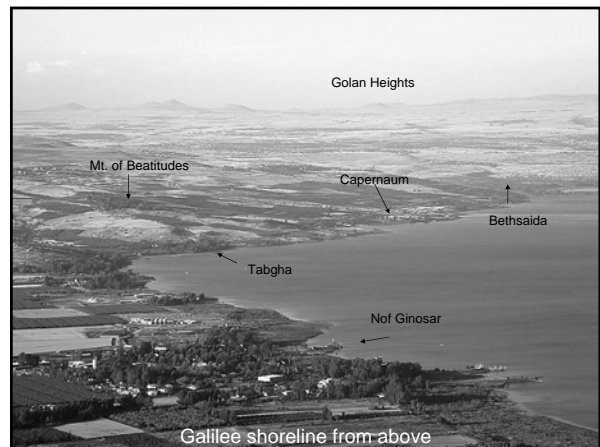
Relocation

- Mark 2:1 - When He had come back to Capernaum several days afterward, it was heard that He was at home.
- Matt. 4:13 - leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali.
- Matt. 9:1 - Getting into a boat, Jesus crossed over the sea and came to His own city.



Capernaum

- Hebrew – “Kaphar-Nahum” or “the village of Nahum”
- Along the edge of the lake about a quarter of a mile
- An ancient harbor
 - a 2500’ promenade, supported by an eight foot wide seawall
 - piers extended about 100’ into the lake
- Population
 - mostly Jews but gentiles also
 - between 1,500 and 10,000 residents
- Commerce
 - fishing
 - Also farmers, artisans, and merchants
- Housed an important customs station on the border between the territory of Herod Antipas and Philip the Tetrarch (Matt. 9:9).
- Housed a military garrison of Roman soldiers (Matt. 8:9; Luke 7:1-10)
- Important enough to have an officer of the King (John 4:46)
- More of Christ’s recorded miracles occurred there than in any other city.





Capernaum area aerial from southeast



Capernaum area aerial from southeast



Capernaum aerial from north



Capernaum aerial from southeast

Mark 1:21-34

- All in the city of Capernaum
- All during one day's time
- The theme: Jesus' authority.
 - 1:21-22 - Jesus' Teaching with Authority
 - 1:23-34 - Jesus' Acting with Authority

Jesus' Teaching with Authority (21-22)

- 1) The Primary Venue (21)
 - Mark 1:21 - They went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach.

Synagogues

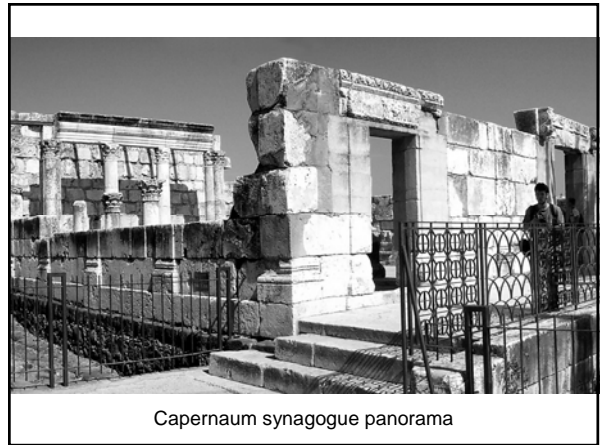
- Arose during the 6th century BC, during the Babylonian captivity.
- Greek, *synagogue* means "a gathering of the people or a congregation."
- Hebrew, *knesset*, the name used for the parliament of modern Israel.
- To form a synagogue, required a quorum of 10 men, over 13 years of age.
- Local synagogue served three purposes:
 - A place of worship on the Sabbath
 - A schoolhouse during the week
 - A civic center

The Synagogue in Capernaum

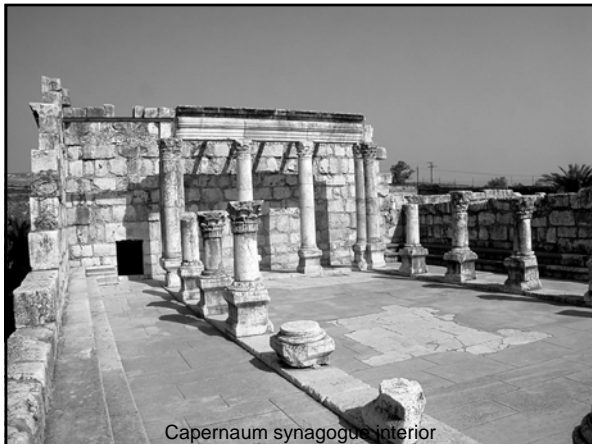
- Built by a Roman centurion whom Jesus actually met.
 - Luke 7:5 – "he loves our nation and it was he who built us our synagogue."
- Jesus would also meet and heal the daughter of the ruler of the synagogue in Capernaum
 - a man named Jairus (Mark 5:22)



Capernaum synagogue



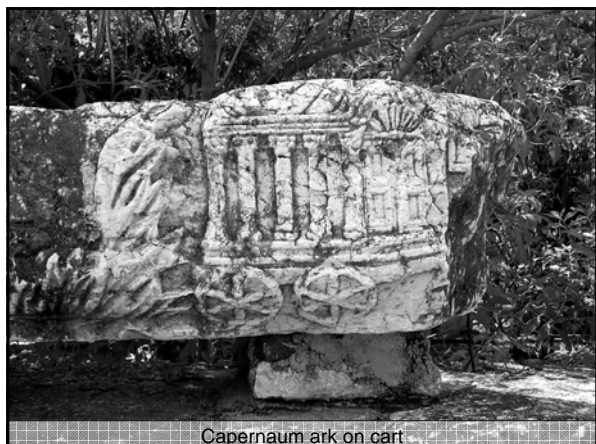
Capernaum synagogue panorama



Capernaum synagogue interior



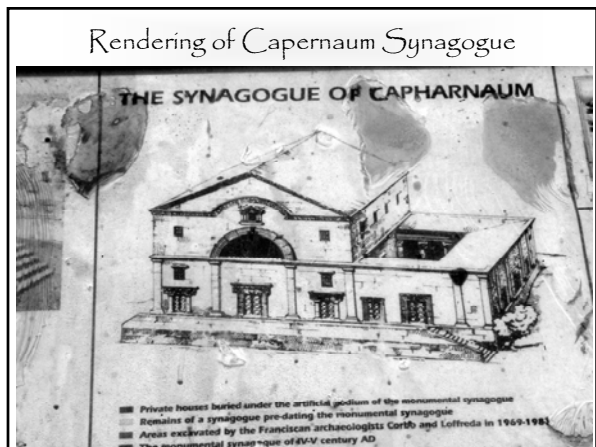
Capernaum synagogue interior



Capernaum ark on cart



Capernaum synagogue annex room



Capernaum synagogue with earlier basalt level

The Synagogue on the Sabbath

- Prayers
 - The chief prayers supposedly date to the time of Ezra.
 - They are called the 18 benedictions.
 - In their present form they date to shortly after 70 AD.
- The reading of the Scripture
 - particularly the Pentateuch
 - the center of the service
 - a reading plan
- An explanation of the biblical text or an exposition
- The ruler of the synagogue...
 - Selected who would read and teach
 - Open to any qualified person
 - Did not require a priest or a rabbi
 - Ordinarily some rabbi present was invited to teach

Jesus' Teaching with Authority (21-22)

- Mark 1:21 - They went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach.
- Jesus taught the exposition in the regular Sabbath synagogue service.
 - He would have stood to read the Scripture (Luke 4:16).
 - And then, he would have sat down to teach (Luke 4:20).
 - He would have sat in the chair of Moses.

The Chair of Moses



Ministry in the Synagogues

- Jesus
 - Matt. 4:23 - Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom.
 - John 18:20 - 20 Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret."
 - Cf. Mark 1:39; 3:1; 6:2
- Paul
 - Acts 17:1-2 - Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures.
 - Acts 18:4 - 4 And he was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath and trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

Jesus' Teaching with Authority (21-22)

- 2) The Primary Response (22a)
 - Mark 1:22a - They were amazed at His teaching
 - Literally, the text says "they were struck out of themselves."

Jesus' Teaching with Authority (21-22)

- 3) The Primary Reason (22b)
 - Mark 1:22b - for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

The Scribes

- During the monarchy, a general secretary and recorder (2 Sam. 8:16-17; 20:24-25; 1 Kings 4:3)
- After the Babylonian exile (586 BC), an expert in the Torah
 - Cf. Ezra the Scribe (Ezra 7:6, 11).
- By the NT, almost entirely Pharisees, the ultra conservatives of their day
- Their responsibilities:
 - 1) Experts in the Torah
 - to interpret the Law
 - Oral tradition
 - Eventually recorded in the Mishnah by 200 AD
 - their interpretations were binding
 - 2) Teachers of the Torah
 - to teach the Law
 - Rabbi, which meant "my great one"
 - 3) Jurists or Judges
 - to apply the eternal Law to the changing circumstances of their day

Jesus vs. the Scribes

- William Hendricksen suggests these:
 - 1. Jesus spoke the truth; their sermons were often marked by corrupt and evasive reasoning.
 - 2. Jesus spoke about issues of great importance; they wasted their time on trivialities.
 - 3. Jesus had a plan and organization in his teaching; as the Talmud shows they rambled.
 - 4. He illustrated the truth; their sermons were as dry as dust.
 - 5. He loved those He taught; they did not.

Authority

- Mark 1:22 - They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.
 - Luke 4:32 (parallel passage) - they were amazed at His teaching, for His message was with authority.
 - Cf. Matt. 7:28-29
- Because of His Person—who He was.
 - Mark uses the word *authority* 9x; 6x of Jesus
 - Mark 1:22, 27; 2:10; 11:28, 29, 33
 - John 7:46 - The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks."

Authority

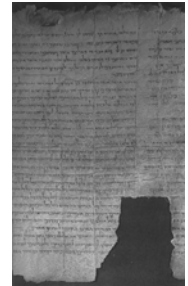
- Jesus' disciples would later teach with the same authority.
 - Cf. Mark 3:15; 6:7; 13:34
 - Luke 21:15 - I will give you utterance and wisdom which none of your opponents will be able to resist or refute.
 - Acts 6:10 - they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.
- Commanded of NT teachers and pastors.
 - Titus 2:15 - these things teach with all authority.

Where Does Authority Come From?

- 1 Pet. 4:11 - "If anyone speaks, let him speak as one who speaks the utterances of God"
- "Utterances"
 - classical Greek = word of a deity
 - LXX = "the Word of the Lord"
 - NT = OT Scripture (Acts 7:38; Rom. 3:2)

The True Source of Jesus' Authority

- Jesus explained the Bible.
- John 8:28-29; 12:46-50
- Luke 24:24, 32*



Apply the Truth

- 1) Obey the commands of Christ.
 - Luke 6:46 - "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"
- 2) Listen to the Word of God.
 - 2 Th. 3:14 - If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.
- 3) You, the church, must insist that the Word be taught (Luke 16:29-31; Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 4:3-4)
- 4) Teachers must teach the Word (2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Pet. 4:10-11).