



Simon Peter's
Mother in Law

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Welcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture.

✝ He (Jesus) came unto his own, and his own received him not. John 1:11 KJV

We know this above passage of scripture is concerning of the Jewish nation as a whole in Jesus Time. However we learned in our last lesson this specifically applied to Jesus and His hometown of Nazareth.

From nearly the beginning of Christ's public Ministry His own received Him not.

This admission alone sets the Gospels apart from any other historical record of antiquity.

Proving the Lord is not concerned about anyone learning that those whom initially knew Him, those familiar with Him- took offense with His teaching simply because they did know Him.

As in He was not the mysterious all powerful stranger they foolishly expected to come to their rescue. When we say it out loud, what Nazareth complained about Christ our Lord, it sure sounds petty & silly.

Ok, usually those whom achieve power and success or wish to convince others of their beliefs, they do their very best or their absolute worst to whitewash away any embarrassing details about their lives. In Jesus's case the Bible accurately predicted and embraced the emotional hometown upheaval against Jesus the Christ Messiah.

Why? Because when we legally testify even today we place our hand upon GOD'S Living Word and swear before Him to give the Truth, the whole Truth, & nothing but the Truth.

As does the Good News of Christ Jesus by giving to us His full historical Gospel truth. Good or no.

Capernaum was located upon the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

We have previously learned that a town called "Kfar Nahum" which means Nahum's village, still stands where Capernaum once stood in the days of Jesus our Christ.

Today thousands of pilgrims and tourists from around the world visit every year.

Capernaum's original meaning in Hebrew was: Nahum's village of comfort.

Kfar Nahum as well as the ancient Capernaum were each named after "Nahum" the Old Testament Prophet, but there has never been any direct link between Capernaum the & Prophet himself other than just as in a namesake homage unto the Prophet.

Sort of like cities or states today within the U.S.A. being named after Washington or Lincoln.

Chief among the ruins of Capernaum is one of the best preserved Synagogues from Jesus Time. Impressive in design & size being 65' long and 2 stories high made of white limestone and having additional seating by benches being carved right into the actual walls.

This Synagogue is mentioned within the Gospel of Dr. Luke chapter 7 as having been financed exclusively by a wealthy Roman Centurion who had a love for Israel who had even personally spoken with Jesus even referring respectfully to Him as Lord.

So, moving on- Levi the dreaded tax collector whom Christ will redefine and refine into Matthew who we will be introduced to us shortly in our Biblical narrative, details for us just how Jesus's rejection in Nazareth and His subsequent relocation to Capernaum for the remainder of Jesus's natural life- how these circumstances fulfilled an oft overlooked ancient prophecy of Messiah from Isaiah.

For the future Messiah to be a "light" personally unto this region as in Jesus now residing in Capernaum. Of course this being when Christ was not within His travels of Preaching & Teaching GOD'S Word, with His authority of Biblical authorship & offerings by the power of Prayer His performing of Miracles that were evidence of His Deity.

From the Apostle Matthews Gospel the detailing of a fulfilled prophecy of Jesus by living in Capernaum.

✝ Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee; ¹³ and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This happened so that what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet would be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “THE LAND OF ZEBULUN AND THE LAND OF NAPHTALI,

BY THE WAY OF THE SEA, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE JORDAN, GALILEE OF THE GENTILES—

¹⁶ THE PEOPLE WHO WERE SITTING IN DARKNESS SAW A GREAT LIGHT,

AND THOSE WHO WERE SITTING IN THE LAND AND SHADOW OF DEATH,

UPON THEM A LIGHT DAWNED.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Jews did not believe they had to repent to receive Salvation) Matthew 4:12-17 NASB

Here is the complete passage from the Prophet Isaiah that Saint Matthew is referencing:

✝ But there will be no more gloom for her who was in anguish. In earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He will make it glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.² The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them. Isaiah 9:1-2 NASB

The lake we know as Galilee was called Tiberius in honor of Caesar by the Romans was actually called Lake Kinneret by the Jews which actually means Harp because the body of water itself resembles a musical harp.

Over time as the fame of Christ in Galilee spread, the lakes true name was simply overlooked and it became simply known as the “Sea of Galilee” because Lake Kinneret is in Galilee of northern Israel. Of course the “anguish of Zebulun & Naphtali” were towns also located in the far northernmost of Israel & they were ruthlessly attacked & conquered by the Assyrians under Tiglath-Pileser in 733-32 BC. This historical event was recorded within the Bible:

✝ In the time of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria came and took Ijon, Abel Beth Maakah, Janoah, Kedesh and Hazor. He took Gilead and Galilee, including all the land of Naphtali, and deported the people to Assyria. 2nd Kings 15:29 NIV

The land of “Naphtali including Zebulun” will be restored and known as Capernaum in Jesus Time.

“ By the way of the Sea” means: there was an overland caravan road that ran from the Sea of Galilee to Damascus Syria, the oldest continuously populated city on planet Earth. Why? For the fish trade.

“The people living in darkness will see a great light”- Christ our Lord living amongst them.

John 8:12(ESV) says it well:

✝ Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Notice Jesus refers to Himself as I AM once again as in the name GOD gave unto Moses for Himself when Israel was not yet ready to know GOD'S Holy Name. In short Jesus fulfilled all the requirements of GOD'S Law which had established temporary sacrificial Judaism for mankind's Sin before GOD- until the Christ arrived and then Jesus fulfilled all prophecy pertaining to THE Messiah within GOD'S Word. We should note hear that just as 2nd Kings records the conquest of Israel by the Assyrian war lord Tiglath-Pileser, archeologists have likewise unearthed Capernaum & by using the New Testament Gospel descriptions of Simon Peters actual home- it has been rediscovered.

Get that?

The home of the Apostle Peter has been uncovered in which there is 100% certainty that Christ our Lord resided there when not traveling during His Ministry.

Simon Peters home did indeed have courtyards surrounded by independent living quarters as the scriptures do describe appearing to be Hellenistic in design of an earlier time circa 330 BC.

It should be noted here Greek design was considered to be far superior than the Roman.

In fact Roman architecture in many ways were just various improvements upon the older Greek.

Peters home was one of a moderately successful business man, one of some means which displays evidence that it was later repurposed into a Christian home Church.

Now lets get to our Biblical narrative of Simon Peter's mother in law who resided with him:

✝ And immediately he (Jesus) left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. Mark1:29-34 ESV

They being brothers James & John our Revelator, with brothers Simon/Peter & Andrew because Capernaum was their hometown.

Christ's admonishment unto the demons to be silent as to His identity was two fold:

First it was not yet time by the prophecy of Daniel chapter 9 for the Lord to be officially announced as "THE" Messiah within Israel.

While additionally it is also highly likely that if our Lord had wished for someone to proclaim His Deity- it would not have been by the voice of an unclean. (demonic)

After Jesus was rejected by His hometown He left the Synagogue in Nazareth and went to Capernaum. A distance of about twenty miles.

This was by now the following Sabbath a week later in Capernaum. (Luke 4:31-31 says so)

Then, Jesus broke a manmade tradition- He healed Simon/Peter's mother in law on the Sabbath.

Notice this transgressions against Pharisaical Law does not violate GOD'S Holy writ of Scripture.

In fact the Bible states Jesus was without Sin. (Hebrews 4, Romans 7 & 8, and all 4 Gospels)

Meaning these manmade traditions of superstition were false and actually only used as a means of control against the Jewish populace by the corrupt Jewish authorities.

Get that? Jesus obeyed GOD'S Law- and He was even respectful and obedient to civil Roman and even Jewish authority, save for any false additions upon or the taking away from GOD'S Law.

The people of Capernaum had noticed Christ's return to Peter's residence and yet they had waited until sundown to bring their sick or possessed friends & family before Him.

Why? Because the Sabbath travel ban was not yet over.

At sunset Saturday- it officially became Sunday and then the Sabbath travel restrictions were abated.

So, Messiah Christ not only spoke and taught upon GOD'S Law- He also healed supernaturally by Prayer any and all whom in Faith were brought before Him. Thusly proving His Deity and as such even the demonic literally had no choice as they too must always obey His Divine authority now being the completely human voice of Jesus.

Our Lords literal miracles of Capernaum demonstrated His authority over the physical Laws of nature and His subjugation over the Spiritual realm of existence.

Now Historically speaking there is an astounding Talmud recording of a cure for what was known as a regional sickness of Capernaum called the "Burning Fever" in Jesus Time.

Get that? For whatever reason be it pollen or plant growth, air pressure or weather, extreme fever was well known in Capernaum.

For which the Pharisee's also claimed to have a supernatural miraculous cure for.

That is if you PAID for a Pharisee to show up and provide it.

Ok, lets say you just paid-

So here it is- the Talmudic cure to end your suffering:

Someone in your family has to take a knife and cut a braid of your hair attaching them together and then suspended them as in tying the knife with the lock of hair into a thorn bush for a number of days. The private fine print of this cure only for the Pharisee to see simply says; in three days the fever will break or they will be dead. That's it! & now you can understand for yourself that the Pharisee's only offered false hope for a fee of course.

This is Why? Jesus beelined- unto His now Disciple Simon/Peter's Mother in Law and actually truly healed her. Thusly not only proving His Deity but also exposing the Pharisee's as frauds.

So Spiritually Jesus commanded the demonic to remain silent, Jesus also commanded the physical with the healing of Peter's Mother in Law, & of course intellectually Jesus proved the teachings of the Pharisees to be false. Christ did indeed command all three: Physical, Spiritual, & the Intellectual.

& how do you think the news of this event was received by the corrupt Jewish elite of Jerusalem?

Finally in conclusion Peter's Mother in Law became an official "Diaconate" of Christ.

Meaning one healed by Him.

As such I submit all who believe and receive Spiritual Life in Christ- we are all Diaconates of Jesus!

Or perhaps you are more familiar with the pronunciation each Scripturally and by the Church of Deacon or Deaconess, as in officials or Elders within the body of Christ.

The root meaning of Deacon of those in Ministry Leadership positions for Christ, is actually :

"the ones healed by Him." Each of us who believe and receive are first restored Spiritually, as we are renewed intellectually & ultimately we will be glorified physically at the Rapture of the Church.

✠ When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. ¹⁵ He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him. ¹⁶ When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. ¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

"He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases."

Matthew 8:14-17 NIV