



**America's Heartland**  
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## Only a city slicker could mistake a well for an outhouse

into the well, and, sure enough, the city slicker was in there sloshing around.

"You OK?" the country boy yelled.

"I am for now, but for goodness sakes, don't flush this thing until I get out of here."

While we can't help but laugh at that city slicker, we'd also agree that being stuck in a well certainly isn't a laughing matter.

The Old Testament prophet Jeremiah once found himself in the bottom of a well, put there by evil men who were angered by his preaching. When people aren't right with God, preaching will almost always make them mad or move them to repentance.

When a servant in the King's palace reported what had happened to Jeremiah. The king sent 30 men to pull Jeremiah out of that well.

Did you get that? A servant recognized that Jeremiah was in a terrible fix and intervened on his behalf by boldly going to king to plead for his rescue.

We all likely know people who, in a spiritual sense, are in the midst of bad circumstances and

need someone to come alongside them. What we should do is exactly what that servant did for Jeremiah: Go to our King, Jesus, and ask Him to intervene.

There's a great church hymn titled Jesus Saves.

"We have heard the joyful sound:

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Spread the tidings all around:  
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!"

The Bible tells us there is salvation in no one else.

"There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved,"

**(Acts 4:12).**  
 You may be familiar with the psalmist who said: "He brought me up out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock."

**(Psalm 40:2).**  
 If any of us, like that city slicker, ever get stuck in a spiritual pit, you can rest assured that you have friend in King Jesus who stands ready to deliver you.

**Roger Alford is pastor of South Fork Baptist Church. Reach him at P.O. Box 673, Owenton, Ky. 40359 or by calling 502-514-6857.**

## What Went Wrong?

Sunday, May 3rd, 2020 Morning Message  
 Bro. Warren Rogers, Ivory Hill Baptist Church

### Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

Luke 4:16-21, "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. <sup>17</sup>And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, <sup>18</sup>The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, <sup>19</sup>To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. <sup>20</sup>And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. <sup>21</sup>And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears."

Imagine going to church next Sunday expecting to hear your pastor and having the Lord Jesus Christ appear in person to tell you that He had come to fulfill all the prophecies of His second coming. Imagine that He told you that the time was now for the fulfillment of all His divine promises. **What would go through your mind?**

That was something close to what Jews in the Nazareth synagogue experienced that day. They had attended the synagogue all their lives, heard many readings of the law, etc. Their hearts were filled with expectancy of the arrival of the Messiah, but on that day, He was there.

Jesus had already been ministering almost a year in Judea with a few visits to Galilee. By the time he arrived in Nazareth his reputation was spreading. The town of Nazareth had a population of about 20 thousand and there were several synagogues there. He went to the one his family had always attended. All the familiar faces were there, neighbors, friends, family.

Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1-2, "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; <sup>2</sup>To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;" Then he explained that that day the scripture had been fulfilled.

**Let's see what went wrong:**

**He told them that He was the fulfillment of messianic promises --** they weren't ready to hear that. **He was saying that He was the long awaited Messiah --** he was not what they were expecting. We really don't know what Jesus will look like. We have what some people think he would look like-- tall, handsome, long flowing brown hair, and will say that's a picture of Jesus. Those people were expecting a King to rule over them, not a preacher who spoke with so much wisdom on the scriptures.

**He, the Savior who would bring salvation,** was standing in front of them and they were listening to His voice and looking at His face; **that He had brought salvation to the poor, the prisoners, the blind, the outcast, the downtrodden.** They did not believe it was for the Gentiles. Many times they had heard, "The blessed hour of the Messiah is to come and the people who are eye witnesses of the Messiah himself will be greatly blest." That day, those Jews were the eye witnesses.

**No Sabbath ever began so wondrously, no Sabbath ever ended so tragically.** The people were stunned at His ability to speak because they had never heard him preach before, even though he had grown up in their midst. They kept saying, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

**What went wrong was that the true gospel was no more of a crowd pleaser that it is today.** Read **Luke 4:28-29**, "And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, <sup>29</sup>And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong." The Jews did not want to admit they were spiritually destitute. We have people today with too much pride to admit they are spiritually destitute.

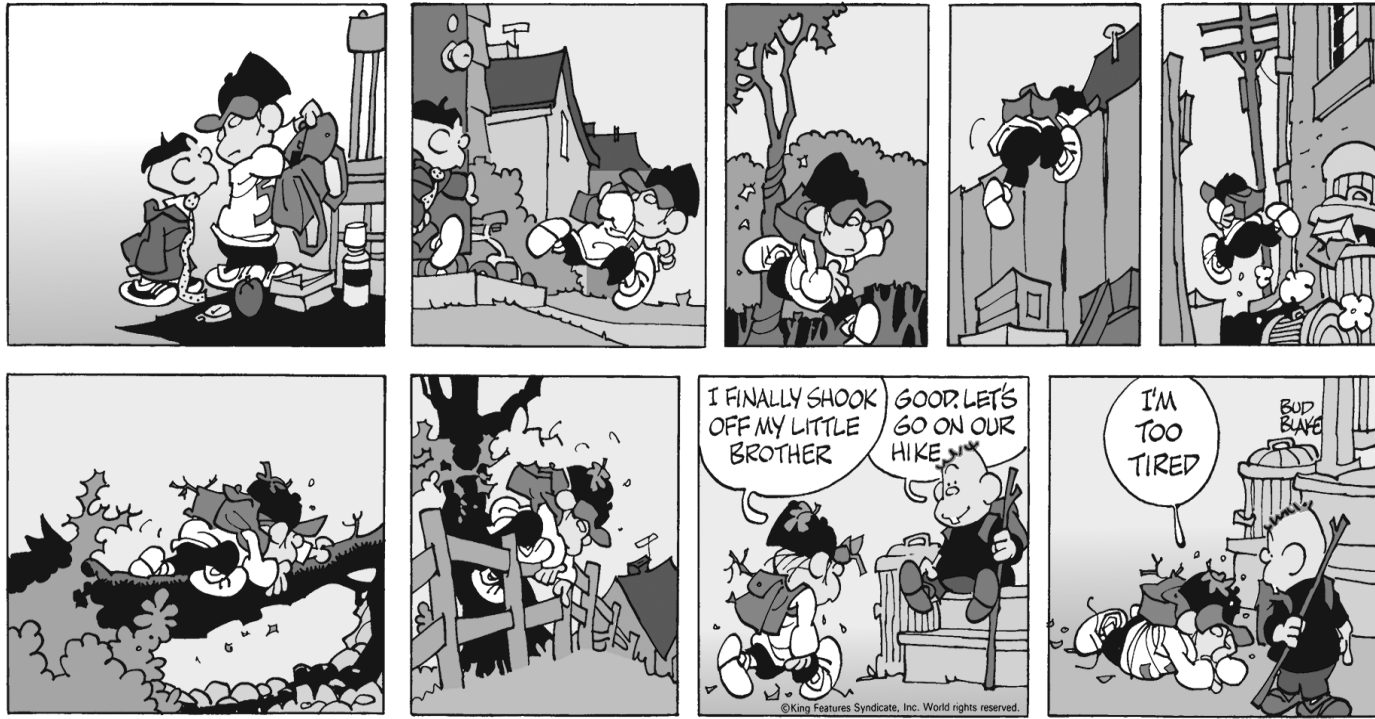
They were righteous in their own eyes. They thought what Jesus had to offer was for someone lower than they -- the Gentiles. Sad to say, we have people today that think that religion is for someone else, they don't need it.

**Jesus never wavered in His message.** He did not preach what they wanted to hear. He just preached the truth and let the chips fall where they may. We need old fashioned preaching today, not the watered down, ear tickling kind that so many churches are going to, just to attract bigger crowds. I have made a habit through the years of my ministry to never waiver from the true gospel. It may get too hot for some, but I will know I preached what God wanted me to. I don't want to face Christ some day and hear Him say, 'What went wrong is that you wavered in your preaching.'

**The people got so irritated that they meant to kill Him.** Refer back to Luke 4. **What went wrong was, they just didn't believe.**

Friends, if this message has brought to you a turning point in your life and you need to talk with me, just call 606-481-0444. **Bro. Warren Rogers**

## TIGER



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