

NAZARETH: A People Greatly Favored By God

Intro: This morning I would like to look at the town of Nazareth. This humble little town was greatly favored by God because He sent angels to both Mary and Joseph (Luke 2:39) to inform them that Mary, a virgin, would conceive the Son of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. The people of Nazareth were also greatly favored by God because Jesus grew up in their midst. He spent the first 30 years of His life playing and working among the people of Nazareth. The sad truth is however, the people of Nazareth rejected Jesus' claims to be the Son of God. In fact, Luke tells us in chapter 4, verses 16-30 that Jesus was *first rejected* in His hometown synagogue at Nazareth.

* Background On Nazareth:



Jesus is the
Nazarene

I. The People Of Nazareth Received God's Grace

A. They were visited by angels (Luke 1:26-33; Matt. 1:18-33)

1. The angel Gabriel visits Mary in Nazareth (Luke 1:26-33)

2. An unnamed angel visits Joseph in Nazareth (Matt. 1:18-25)

B. They were visited by the Son of God (Matt. 2:13-23; Luke 2:39-52)

1. Jesus the Nazarene = *Netsar* (Matt. 2:13-23; Isa. 11:1-10)

2. Jesus' childhood development in Nazareth (Luke 2:39-52)

II. The People Of Nazareth Rejected God's Son (Luke 4:14-30)

Conclusion: