

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for May 29, 2016

The Time Has Come
Mark 1:14-15

I. The Move (1:14)

A. The timing of the move (1:14a)

14a Now after John was arrested

- John arrested for his confrontation of Herod the tetrarch's relationship with Herodias, who was the wife of his brother, Philip (Luke 3:18-20; Matthew 14:3-4; Mark 6:14-29)
- John's gospel informed us that John the Baptist's ministry was declining while Jesus' ministry was increasing
- John's arrest seals the deal
- God sovereignly moving spotlight from John the Baptist to Jesus
- The role of the forerunner is over
- The baton is being handed off
- Luke 16:16 "The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it."

B. The location of the move (1:14b)

14b Jesus came into Galilee

- Was Jesus fleeing from danger of Herod who arrested John the Baptist?
 - Galilee=Territory/Region of Herod Antipas (Luke 3:1)
 - Herod Antipas ruled over Jordan and had John the Baptist arrested, so Jesus' move to Galilee was not away from Herod's jurisdiction (France, 90)
- Jesus' movement to Galilee fulfilled prophecy of a light in Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles (Matthew 4:12-17)
- Move of Jesus to Galilee showed independence from John the Baptist

C. The reason for the move (1:14c)

14c Proclaiming the gospel of God

- Messiah's mission is to preach!
 - Jesus was to preach just like John the Baptist
- What is He to preach?
 - Good News!!!

- Old Testament supports this action
- Isaiah 61:1-2 “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor...”

II. The Message (1:15)

A. The urgency of the message (1:15a)

15a “and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled,’”

- Moment that Israel had been waiting for
 - 2,000 years of history as a nation
 - USA has less than 300 years as a nation
 - Galatians 4:4 “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,”
 - Ephesians 1:9-10 “making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.”

B. The content of the message (1:15b)

15b and the kingdom of God is at hand

- Kingdom of God is a loaded concept!
 - Universal Kingdom or Reign of God
 - Psalm 103:19 “The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.”
 - Mediatorial Kingdom or Reign of God
 - Zechariah 14:9 “And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one.”
- How was the Kingdom of God at hand?
 - The Kingdom was near because the King said so
 - Not John the Baptist or any other prophet
 - The King proved His Messiahship in His ministry
 - Power over sickness, nature, and demonic forces

C. The demands of the message (1:15c)

15c repent and believe in the gospel

- Not a message without a response
- Like John the Baptist, Jesus’ message demands change

“Repent”

- To think differently such that one’s life changes
 - Matthew 13:44-45 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”
- Mark 1:4-5 “John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.”

“believe in the gospel”

- Not merely intellectual (James 2)
- Not temporal/momentary
- Trust and dependence on God
- Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”
- Faith and repentance are two sides of the same coin
- Acts 20:21 “testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.”