



2/3/19 Luke 4:21-30 & Jer 1: 4-5, 17-19

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Stone, Naomi. [Sacrament of Presence](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [On Being Jealous of God's Generosity](#)

[Jesus Reads from Isaiah](#)

ENTERING THE SCENE:

Michael Quoist says: "First of all, let us examine our conscience. Are we not Christians out of self-interest and habit? We are like the congregation at the temple, we accept the Lord but on the condition that he uses his power for our benefit. In fact, what we want is a God who is an indulgence-bank on which we can draw the checks we need; we want a God who fulfills the desires we ourselves cannot satisfy; we want a God who can give us a better world without our having to dirty our hands working for it - otherwise 'What good is religion?' We are making a tragic mistake. God isn't a supermarket for indulgences, or some kind of sugar-daddy or an all-risk insurance policy. He isn't a 'providential' political leader for the foundation of a just society or a genial Minister of Finance for economic miracles. He is first and foremost a loving Father who waits to be loved freely by his sons (and daughters). Let us not make any mistakes here, otherwise the Lord will repeat his words to the faithful at the temple that no prophet is well received in his own country, and he'll

turn his back on us, leaving us to the indifference of our good conscience and our miles of selfish prayers" Pg. 33.

Quoist, Michael. [Living Words](#). Denville, NJ. Dimension Books. 1978.

[Luke 4:21-30](#)

21 Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, "Today this **scripture is fulfilled** in your hearing." 22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the **gracious words** that came from his lips. "Isn't this **Joseph's son**?" they asked. 23 Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: '**Physician, heal yourself!** Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in **Capernaum**.'" 24 I tell you the truth," he continued, "no **prophet** is accepted in his **hometown**. 25 I assure you that there were many **widows** in Israel in **Elijah's** time, when the sky was shut for **three and a half years** and there was a **severe famine** throughout the land. 26 Yet **Elijah** was not sent to any of them, but to a **widow** in **Zarephath** in the region of Sidon. 27 And there were many in Israel with **leprosy** in the time of **Elisha** the **prophet**, yet not one of them was cleansed--only **Naaman** the **Syrian**." 28 All the people in the synagogue were **furious** when they heard this. 29 They got up, **drove him out** of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to **throw him down** the cliff. 30 But he **walked right through** the crowd and went on his way.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: God in Jesus, is bringing new news and the people were not ready to receive it that day. So Jesus walks away to find those who are ready. Am I ready?

PRAYER: Gracious Jesus, I am so tired of trying my old ways that get me nowhere. With your help I think I am ready for something new. You are giving me another new year to work on those things in my life that need to grow beyond where I am stuck. Every new day, week, month are growing opportunities. Please keep me aware that you are always there as I explore new ways to receive and give love. Amen