

- 12 \* But when he heard that John was cast into prison, he retired  
 13 into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt at Capernaum, which is on the sea coast, in the borders of Zebulon and  
 14 Naphthali: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah  
 15 the prophet, saying, † The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphthali, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles:  
 16 The people who walked in darkness saw a great light, and to them who sat in the region of the shadow of death, light is sprung up.  
 17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, Repent, for  
 18 the kingdom of heaven is at hand. ‡ And walking by the sea of Galilee, he saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his  
 19 brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And he saith to them, Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.  
 20 And straightway, leaving their nets, they followed him. And going  
 21 on from thence, he saw two other brethren, James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the vessel with Zebedee their  
 22 father, mending their nets; and he called them. And leaving the vessel and their father, they immediately followed him.  
 23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner  
 24 of disease and all manner of malady among the people. And his fame went through all Syria: and they brought to him all sick people, that were held with divers diseases and tormenting pains; and demoniacs, and lunatics, and paralytics; and he healed them.

12. *He retired into Galilee*—This journey was not immediately after his temptation. He first went from Judea into Galilee, John i, 43; ii, 1. Then into Judea again, and celebrated the passover at Jerusalem, John ii, 13. He baptized in Judea while John was baptizing at Enon, John iii, 22, 23. All this time John was at liberty, ver. 24. But the Pharisees being offended, chap. iv, 1; and John put in prison, he then took this journey into Galilee.

13. *Leaving Nazareth*—Namely, when they had wholly rejected his word, and even attempted to kill him, Luke iv, 29.

15. *Galilee of the Gentiles*—That part of Galilee which lay beyond Jordan was so called, because it was in a great measure inhabited by Gentiles, that is, heathens.

16. Here is a beautiful gradation, first, *they walked*, then they *sat in darkness*, and lastly, *in the region of the shadow of death*.

17. *From that time Jesus began to preach*—He had preached before, both to Jews and Samaritans, John iv, 41, 45. But from this time began his solemn stated preaching. *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*—Although it is the peculiar business of Christ to establish the kingdom of heaven in the hearts of men, yet it is observable, he begins his preaching in the same words with John the Baptist: because the repentance which John taught still was, and ever will be, the necessary preparation for that inward kingdom. But that phrase is not only used with regard to individuals in whom it is to be established, but also with regard to the Christian Church, the whole body of believers. In the former sense it is opposed to repentance; in the latter the Mosaic dispensation.

23. *The Gospel of the kingdom*—The Gospel, that is, the joyous message, is the proper name of our religion: as will be amply verified in all who earnestly and perseveringly embrace it.

24. *Through all Syria*—The whole province, of which the Jewish country was only a small part. *And demoniacs*—Men possessed with devils: *and lunatics, and paralytics*—Men ill of the palsy, whose cases were of all others most deplorable and most helpless.

\* Mark i, 14. † Isaiah ix, 1, 2. ‡ Mark i, 16; Luke v, 1.