

His Rejection Is Our Release

Sermon Series: Luke: All Things New



Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Luke 4:14-30



Big Idea

Jesus postpones the day of the Lord's vengeance and proclaims the year of the Lord's favor. Do not reject the Son but receive Him while there is still time!

(1) Our Rejection Postponed

What Jesus does not read from Isa 61:1-2 is just as important as what He does read. The Jews, it seems, understood the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance to be coming in as one historical moment. God would come, deliver the Jewish people by trampling on their enemies. But Jesus, by ending His reading where He does, in effect, divides the one historical moment into two. The day of vengeance, the day that would have been our rejection by God, is postponed for us, but it comes in early for Him on the cross. He puts Himself forward to receive the vengeance, the wrath, the rejection that we deserve for our sin, so that the favor of God that He alone deserves could be given to us by faith. Christ takes the day of vengeance, I get the year, the eternity of favor. For those who are in the Son, God is now fully and forever for you!

(2) His Rejection Previewed (vv. 22-30)

As we work our way through these verses I will point out three reasons I see that these Jews have for rejecting Jesus:

(1) Jesus Is Too Familiar

(2) Jesus Is Too Inclusive

(3) Jesus Is Too Honest

This whole scene, while sobering for us, is also sweet. For in it we are reminded of why our Savior has come in the first place: "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised . . . [so that] "the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem" (Luke 9:22; 24:47). You can be forgiven. He will be fully and forever for you. His rejection is our release!

Reflection Questions



- How can you know that God is fully and forever for you? When trials come, what makes you doubt? In times of doubt, how do you fight for faith?
- Has familiarity bred complacency or contempt in your relationship with Christ? Consider your relationship with Him as a new believer. Has it gotten deeper and richer over time, or more luke warm? Why do you think this is?
- Can Jesus and His people be honest with you? Does God have access to every part of your heart, or are there things that you close off from Him? How do you respond when others confront your sin?