## MESSAGE # 4: HE IS THE ONE WHO PUBLICLY LIVES AS A SERVANT TO THE PEOPLE

Biblical passage: Luke 4:16-21

I. Introduction to the Study:

The Lord Jesus is known in this servant role throughout the Old Testament and He completes the picture in the New Testament when He says in Luke 22...."I am among you as one who serves..."To some the word "servant" is degrading and it can be that way but in the case of the Lord it is an elevating term and that is true for His followers even today. There is no higher calling than that to serve and it is epitomized in the Lord whether it is seen prophetically as in Isaiah 53 or dramatically as in John 13. This is an open matter with the Lord who came to minister not to receive ministry. From Him we learn a great example about the service that this life provides for the betterment of many. It is true that, as in John 15, He does not call us servants but friends. Those who are His friends, however, will obey Him and the first line of practicality is to be a servant as He was a servant.

- II. Discussion
  - A. Some biblical texts and their relevance
    - Luke 4:16 ff...note what the Lord has come to do and see where the benefit goes (the broken hearted, the blind, the captives, the helpless)
    - 2. Mark 5:1-20...the Gadarene maniac
    - 3. John 9, Mark 10:46-47...the blind
    - 4. Mark 3:1-6...the paralytic
    - 5. Mark 6:34, 8:2...compassion for the multitudes

And in each case He observes and provides a service!

- B. Observations:
  - 1. He is alert to the needs...recognizes them, meets them
  - He has a genuine compassion (one that does something) for those who are needy. He takes particular interest in individual causes.
  - He ministers freely, giving of Himself, being patient and kind and giving God the glory

-175-