

**A Ministry That Changed the  
World *and Me*  
Matthew 4: 12-17**

**October 10, 2021**

**Jesus has been baptized and empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the Father's will – John 6: 38**

**Jesus conducted His life with a specific goal of pleasing Father**

**How does a Christian please Father?**

*Believe in His Son*

*Become like His Son*

**Romans 8: 29**

**My entire life here in the  
wilderness, in foreign country, is  
for *CHANGE!***

To change from *flesh*  
*dominance* to *God dominance*

***STOP FEEDING YOUR FLESH!!***

***STOP IT!!***



**How do we deal with the flesh?**

**STARVE the flesh!!**

**FLEE the flesh!!**

**Galatians 5: 16**





MAKE MONEY

JESUS

PRIDE

GREED

LUST

ENVY

SLOTH

WRATH

GLUTTONY

**Satan chooses his battles; he knows what bait works on you!**





## Verse 12

# Jesus Heads Home

**Why now? Why head home at this juncture?**

*“In royal protocol, the King does not make his appearance in public until the forerunner has finished his work.”* (Stanley Toussaint)

**Matthew does not mention Jesus' first full year of ministry in Judea, but the Apostle John does**

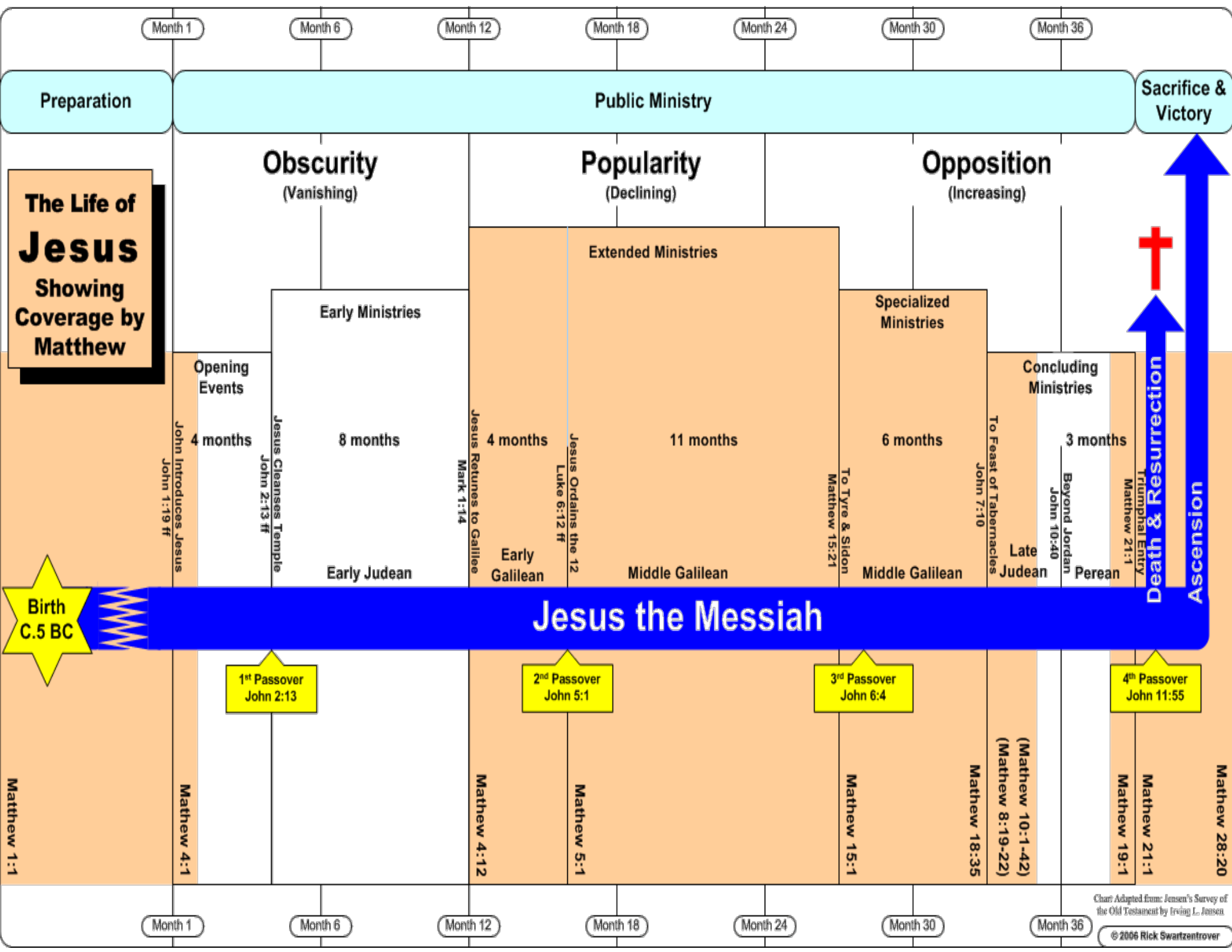


Chart Adapted from: Jensen's Survey of the Old Testament by Irving L. Jensen.

In the first year, John was still introducing the Judean countryside to the Messiah

Jesus would become *greater* and John *less* important

**In every generation, God raises up servants to follow other servants**

They are not *competitors*, but *complementors*, working toward the same goal:

***TO GLORIFY GOD!***



Every leader must prepare for his successor;  
every leader has a time to pass the baton

*Passing*



*the*

**Baton**

## Verse 13a

# Jesus' Surprise Homecoming



He left as Jesus, the carpenter's son

He returns as the promised Messiah  
*(the homies don't like it)*

Luke 4: 16-29

Jesus reads Isaiah 61: 1-2

Their immediate response:

*“gracious words”* – Luke 4: 22

Shortly becomes doubt and  
criticism

Jesus' response:

*“no prophet is accepted in His own country”* – Luke 4: 24

Outraged, they led Jesus to a hill and planned to throw Him over the cliff –

Luke 4: 29

Jesus does His Jesus thing:

*“passing through the midst of them, He went His way”* – Luke 4: 30

IT WAS NOT JESUS' TIME!

**No one could touch Christ before His time, and no one can touch you!**

**SO . . . . .**

***STOP WORRYING!!***

**Worrying is assuming a responsibility  
God did not intend you to have**

**Worry is a trickle of fear that soon cuts  
a crevice so deep it drains all other  
thoughts away**



Worry is a flesh thing, *not a Spirt thing!*

*SO . . . . .*

**STOP IT!!**

## Verse 13b

**Time for a change – a new  
home base**

Jesus established a new home base,  
Capernaum, friendlies were there

When rejected, *drive on!*

Following Jesus will cause division

Matthew 10: 34-35

Why the division?

*Different kingdoms, different king,  
different values, different  
worldview, different life*

Verse 14 - 16

**The Jewish Messiah is for  
the entire world**



**Gentile** = “*ethnos*” = all nations,  
all people groups

**The Jewish Messiah is also the  
Gentile Messiah**

## Verse 17

**Repent, for the Kingdom of  
Heaven is at hand**

**Repent** = “*metanoia*” = change of mind, change of heart; turn your life around

This is an offer of the Kingdom to the Jewish people; ***it was rejected!***

**John 1: 11**

The Kingdom offer has its final rejection in **Matthew 12: 24**

# **The blasphemy of the Holy Spirit!**

**Ascribing the works of Jesus to the devil**

**A final rejection of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the Jewish leadership**

# CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Every believer is on a *TRUTH*  
mission

We are living in a world void of  
truth

A world where people make up  
their own truth

## REMEMBER:

The **TRUTH** will make you free  
John 8: 32

Freedom is found in a person,  
**Jesus Christ**, *not in our situation*

Nothing can separate us from the  
**love of God!**

Knowing this **TRUTH** is freeing!  
Romans 8: 35-39

**TRUTH**

**Jesus had a ministry that changed you and me!**

The changed me will not fit into (*and will be contrary to*) the direction of our world

**The final stretch will not be easy!**

Only those with Holy Spirit ***“grit”*** will burst through the finish line!



# Grit | *Noun*

COURAGE, bravery, pluck, mettle, backbone, spirit, strength of character, strength of will, moral fiber, steel, nerve, fortitude, toughness, hardiness, resolve, resolution, determination, tenacity, perseverance, endurance; informal: guts, spunk.

May you be that bull in a blizzard  
that finishes strong and stands for  
*TRUTH!*

“ . . . . *and having done all, to  
STAND” - Ephesians 6: 13*

Sometimes you just have to *STAND*  
for what you believe, *alone!*





**JESUS HAD A MINISTRY THAT  
CHANGED THE WORLD AND ME!!**

**Jesus took His stand**

**Now, it is our time to STAND  
with the Holy Spirit's power**

**“GRIT”**

**SO . . . . .**

***STAND!!***

