

Scriptures Reading: John 1:43-56 and 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Sermon theme: **CAN ANYTHING GOOD COME OUT OF NAZERATH?**

Key verse: 46

### **Introduction**

In the biblical term NAZARETH was a small agriculture town established by dozen families. The town is not mentioned in the Old- Testament, an insignificant village, too small to be noted in the list of settlement of the tribe of Zebulun.

Scholars and writers derived the origin of the word Nazareth from a Hebrew word: Nazareth means NAZIN (Nazarite) which means MONK. A monk is a person who is dedicated his life to a spiritual purpose. Another meaning is BRANCK that the savour will come from. The branches of the root of King David.

Despite of the meaning found by the scholars and writers, something greater came out of Nazareth.

### **Development**

Today we understand in verse 45, a man by the Name Philip who found the discovery too sweet to keep to himself and therefore looked for his friend Nathanael. When he found him, his message was we found the very person Moses and the Prophets wrote about.

**Let me Paraphrase it**, we have come to close contact with Jesus of Nazareth. The son of Joseph, and we have identified Him as the fulfilment of what Moses and the Prophets wrote about.

Jesus Christ was like any other man living in Palestine. It is what Philip and others had discovered about him that made him different (the way people were following Jesus Christ, the teaching and soon), but what really amazed and touched Nathanael was the Place NAZARETH.

For Him, he thought the Messiah (Jesus Christ) should come from an important town like Jerusalem (The Capital city); or Bethlehem (The City of David); or even from his own town of Cana, not from such an unimportant place as NAZARETH.

The response from Philip was very good. Do not disagree, come and see yourself. it took only two statements by Jesus Christ to turn Nathanael from a sceptic( a person who habitually doubts the truth of religion) into a believers.

The statement showed us that Jesus is all- knowing and all- seeing. His First statement was to Nathanael:

1. Here is a true Israelite, in who there is nothing false. He was a honest man.
2. I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, here is a Man who knows everything about us and a Man from Nazareth .Can anything good come out of Nazareth? He knew the future for a man who did not believe that greater things will come out of Nazareth.

### **Application**

A man who knew people's mind, toughs, places and their future

Beloved in Christ, ask yourself, can anything good come out of the Peace Church? Out of your family, your country, place, and areas where we are coming from. God says that will bring something good from a place where people did not except.

We got our salvation through Jesus Christ ( A man from Nazareth). we are all blessed and have a life through Him.

- It does not matter where you are coming from.
- It does not matter how your background look like
- It does not matter how your church is big or small

Still God can do more than what you think of and we imagine. God saw us and knew us before we came into this world.

Many people in this world think that greater things come only from the greater places, rich places, well standard countries, well known countries and places.

Here this Morning the bible says that a Man who came from an unimportant place which is Nazareth, brought all that we have today and blessed all the nations.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we must move by faith and believe in our Lord Jesus Christ. We can still have what we need today and change our life if we believe and have faith in Christ.

Many people in the world will come and ask questions. Can anything good come out of Peace Church, out of this place, country or families?

Let me quote this scripture from the book of 1 Corinthians 1:26-46

where The Bible says that God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, let the one who boast, boast in the Lord.

We need to understand that God is able to lift us up and make people greater .People who were neglected by the societies, communities and by their backgrounds.

we are not moving and getting what we want today because we do always look upon ourselves saying that I can not do that and I can not be who I want to be by looking at our background and Churches. The Bible says that everything is possible through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God is able to change our situation now and to make someone stand in this Church before the Nations. By then people will be saying that I know this man and woman. They are from Peace Church or from a poor Country or Background. Brothers and Sisters, our God can do and he is able to do greater if we have faith in Him and believe in Him.

### **Illustration**

There was a man who grown up in a family whereby his father could not afford to pay his studies for his entire life, but he had opportunity from His father to go to primary school. A man who went to his primary school with one uniform. Being a child , he used to move with his uniform during day and wash it during the night because it was duty so that he may be able to wear it the following morning for class. Sometime the uniform washed during the night was not dry up the following day, but that man used to run up 10 times or more his compound so that the uniform may get dry. He went through a chaneling period and he made it. he finished his primary school and His neighbourhood and His parent came together to support him for His secondary school. The Man got the courage to go and finish His school. when he got a diploma and he wanted to go for his university , but unfortunately his parents and friends could not afford to pay for his university. The man took the bicycle and started riding 100km and more from Congo to Zambia. he was going over there to buy different things such as Maize cob, and soyabeans which were very marketable in his areas ( Kolwezi). The man had chance to work in the shop again whereby he was selling cloths. One day the man met a person (Freddy) shared with him about Africa University. The Man applied to Africa University and got the acceptance letter to go to Africa University. His father decided to sign a contract with a priest manager where he was working for a year without getting paid so that his son could get the Passport. The man got the Passport and went to Zimbabwe at Africa University. The man while he was at Africa University, he gave His life to Christ and got baptised at Africa University. The man received a call to ministry at Africa University. The man was involved in different work for God glory and sake.

The Man got a scholarship from the University and finished His first degree in 2008 and went back home. The man got a good Job in his country ( As Human Resources Manager).

Because of the skills and education which he got from Africa University the man was granted that position. The Man worked with His fellow brothers and sisters. Many people came to know that man and the rest of his family because of what God did in his life and the good Job. The Man decided to follow his call. He applied again at Africa University and got an

admission. The man went back to Africa University for his theology degree. God had opened ways for the man to be selected as the president of Student, and took him to United State joined the West Michigan project for 24 days. God opened doors for Him again to go to Germany for His internship for two months.

Brothers and Sisters, the Man that I am talking about he is Eric Mulanda Nduwa. He is with you right now. God chose me, from a neglected place. A place which was not known, born in a house and had challenges to finish his studies back home, but still God says He can bring something from Nazareth.

I would like just to encourage you this morning that God will bring something greater from your family, country and the Church where you are, but we must have faith in Him and believe in Him. God will use His people to bring you up for His glory and sake. People who are rejected by others and countries which are rejected by others. Many people in this world think that nothing greater and good will come from Africa. Our Lord says that He can bring something from a place which is rejected and neglected in this world.

### **Conclusion**

Today we are remaindered to believe and have faith in Jesus Christ again and He is able to change and transform our life for His glory and sake. As we are all from Nazareth, let us move by faith.

God saw us and knew us and He has our live in His hand. Something greater and good will come from whoever believe and have faith in Him from day.

In the name of the father and the son and the Holy Spirit

Amen.

Shared by Eric Mulanda