

Jesus' action plan Part 1

As today's PR people would do, Jesus did extensive *research* before adopting a positive plan of *action* for His ministry to Israel.

In the local synagogue where He grew up as a boy, He announced a summary of His plan by reading Isaiah's prophecy about Israel's coming Messiah –

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because
He has anointed me to proclaim the gospel to the poor,
He has sent me to heal the broken-hearted,
To proclaim deliverance to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed,
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” Isaiah 61.1-2.

Jesus then told His home folk, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

First, by this announcement He was telling those who had known Him since he was a boy, “*I am Israel's Messiah!*”

Second, this meant that *He alone* would bring to Israel the long-awaited kingdom of God!

Third, it also meant that *He alone* would deal with humanity's enormous problems – poverty, sorrow, bondage, suffering, oppression!

This was too much for the locals. They fiercely rejected Him.

But would Jesus prove them wrong?

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**It's best to think before you talk, think twice before you decide,
think three times before you criticise.**

Ken Packer