CAPERNAUM

When Jesus began His ministry he moved from Nazareth to Capernaum, a fishing and trading village located along the northern side of the Sea of Galilee. Capernaum is mentioned in the New Testament, once as the home of Peter, Andrew, James and John, as well as the dwelling place of Matthew the tax collector.

The second time Capernaum is referred to is as one of the three cities damned by Jesus for its inhabitants' wrongdoings and lack of faith in God.

Capernaum is important for the study of the New Testament because of its central role in Jesus’ ministry around Galilee. Many of Jesus’ miracles, healings, and sermons are described by all four Gospel authors as taking place at Capernaum.

Matthew even goes so far as to call Capernaum Jesus’ “own city.” Jesus worshipped and taught in the synagogue of Capernaum and it is Capernaum where He declared the promise of the Holy Communion. Despite this, Jesus is described as cursing the town because of their rejection of Him.