



# RECOGNIZING JESUS

A S H A K E T H E N A T I O N S D E V O T I O N A L

HE CAME TO HIS HOMETOWN AND BEGAN TEACHING THEM IN THEIR SYNAGOGUE, SO THAT THEY WERE ASTONISHED, AND SAID, "WHERE DID THIS MAN GET THIS WISDOM AND THESE MIRACULOUS POWERS? IS NOT THIS THE CARPENTER'S SON? IS NOT HIS MOTHER CALLED MARY, AND HIS BROTHERS, JAMES AND JOSEPH AND SIMON AND JUDAS? AND HIS SISTERS, ARE THEY NOT ALL WITH US? WHERE THEN DID THIS MAN GET ALL THESE THINGS?" AND THEY TOOK OFFENSE AT HIM. BUT JESUS SAID TO THEM, "A PROPHET IS NOT WITHOUT HONOR EXCEPT IN HIS HOMETOWN AND IN HIS OWN HOUSEHOLD." AND HE DID NOT DO MANY MIRACLES THERE BECAUSE OF THEIR UNBELIEF.

**MATTHEW 13:54-58**

**Have you ever stopped to think about what the people in Jesus' hometown were really saying about Him?** They did not call him a false prophet. They did not say that He could not do miracles. They simply took Him for granted. They looked at the Son of God, and they basically said, "He is just one of the boys who grew up here. We know this guy. He is not special."

**Think about that!** No circumstance in the history of the world could possibly have been more uncommon. The God who had spoken the universe into existence was standing right in front of them, and they did not realize what was going on. They treated Jesus as though He was common, just another guy.

One of the main purposes of the biblical priesthood was to teach the people the difference between what was holy and what was considered common. As we live our lives, we need to cry out to the Holy Spirit to give us discernment, **that we will recognize the Lord for who He truly is**, because miracles flow when we see Him through the eyes of faith.