

Sunday, January 30, 2022
“Meet Your King”
Summary of A Great Light in Galilee
Matthew 4:12-25
Wayne Shelton

In this second half of chapter four, Matthew introduces us in brief ways to Jesus the Light of the Nations, the Lord of the Church, and the Life of the Body. Touched by the Lord’s summoning Word and healing hands, the church comes into being. The service that Jesus performs in this ‘service’ second half of the fourth chapter is forming a community – by traveling around, preaching, teaching, and healing. Jesus now has real people, willing persons, emphatically following him. To them he gave the promise that he will make, at least, some of them, catchers of other people. He also gives to them a wholeness of life they had not known before. One writer summarizes chapter four verses 12-25 in a compelling manner, as he states:

“The Israel of God is reborn and reformed here from rather humble, ordinary, even sick stock. This people is ready now for a formal constitution, for a service of dedication, and for instruction in what it means in practical terms to follow Jesus and so catch people. The majestic address that follows [i.e., the sermon on the mount] intends to supply all followers of Jesus with the innermost meanings of, and equipment for, the grace of Christian ministry of discipleship.”

