

Commentary on the Gospel for Sat, Apr 9th 2011

For the Pharisees, no prophet can come from Galilee, which received little respect from the rest of Palestine and was considered more culturally backward. Galileans spoke Hebrew so badly that they were not called to read the Torah in other synagogues. Jesus spoke Aramaic in the Galilean dialect, and this encouraged doubt about him: “would the Christ come from Galilee?” So does it mean anything to us that Jesus came from a small, rural village in Galilee? Having spent his early life there, Jesus understood rejection, poverty, even the pain of oppression. At the time of Jesus, Galilee was treated with contempt; in Galilee, there was anguish and gloom. But, God changed Galilee into a place of glory, a place of honour, the place of the Christ’s birth. So, no matter what our past or where we come from, God will bestow upon us the same miracle he bestowed upon Galilee, but only if we turn from sin and turn to him.

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