

Drama for *Rejected in Nazareth*

by John Walsh

Narrator: If a coffee shop had been around in the time of Jesus, the conversation might have sounded something like this...

[Four men in modern clothes with coffee cups strike up a conversation.]

A Nazarene: *[With a jealous air]* Have you guys heard all the buzz about the carpenter's son? Everybody keeps talking about miracles. We grew up together, and I don't remember any miracles then...

Man from the Synagogue: *[Good-natured but rough]* I don't know about miracles, but he sure is a slippery character. We were going to throw him off the cliff after what he said in the synagogue, but he just...well...*disappeared*. One minute he was there, then the next – poof!

Pharisee: *[Pompously]* And good riddance, I say. How dare he blaspheme God! Claiming to be the Anointed One foretold by the prophet Isaiah! Then, what he said about the Gentiles ... He should have gone over the cliff!

Man from Capernaum: *[Thoughtfully]* Well, I'm from out of town, but I wouldn't be so quick to judge if I were you. He healed my son when he was at the very door of death, just by speaking a few words. And my son was miles away in Capernaum! I don't think anything but God's power could do that?

A Nazarene: Then why wouldn't he show us some of these fancy miracles? I guess we're not good enough for him anymore.

Man from the Synagogue: Well, if he shows up again, the guys from the synagogue will make sure he gets what's coming to him...assuming we can catch him!

Pharisee: We don't want that blasphemer ever to come back! Let him wander around like a vagabond. He'll forever be a stain on the good name of Nazareth, but at least we won't have to put up with him anymore!

Man from Capernaum: Fine! Send him to us! We'll take him in Capernaum! *[The others leave with signs of disgust and dismissal.]* A healer come from God...yeah, we'll take him!