

GOSPEL PEARLS

On account of God

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Jesus came to Nazara and spoke to the people in the synagogue: 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.' When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away. (Luke 4, 24-30)

The true prophet is the one who speaks on behalf of God. But the true and only God is not agreeable to sinful people and not well accepted by the wicked. For this reason over the centuries, the Lord and his disciples are not accepted by those who do not wish to convert: belonging to the same family or to the same city of a true disciple of Jesus does not mean automatically being His friend. Do you welcome those who speak to you about Jesus according to the perennial teaching of the Church?