

# No Ordinary Man

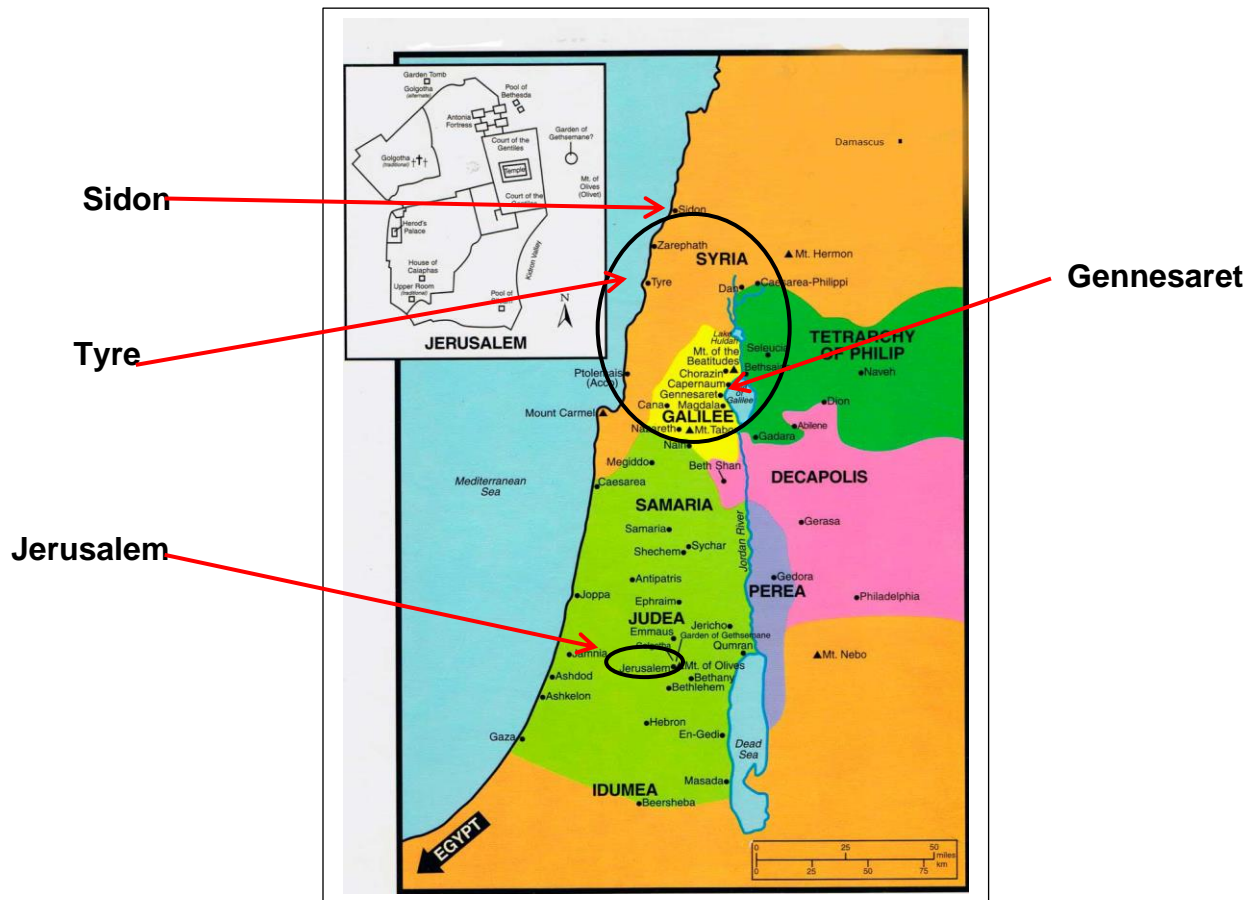
## Chapter 24-Matthew, John, Mark

### The Gospel of Matthew-Chapters 5-7-The Sermon on the Mount

#### Chapter 5-Beatitudes

#### Vs. 1-16-Those Poor in Spirit

- Jesus' sermon took place in Galilee.



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- Beatitude or blessed means “**happy**.”
- Jesus was speaking to a mixed crowd of people. Some of the people were commoners and some were Pharisees.
- Verses 1-12 spoke of those who were poor in spirit. In other words, these were the people whose spirits were **void** of God. Jesus responded to the fulfillment of a poor spirit in verse 6 by stating those hungry and thirsty for righteousness

would be satisfied. This righteousness was going to be fulfilled in Jesus' death on the cross and His ultimate resurrection.

### **Sermon on the Mount-Matthew 5:1-16**

- Vs. 3-12 Jesus is talking to those whose hearts long for **Him** and are persecuted for Him.
- Vs 13-16 The Jewish nation-they were to be the **salt and light** of the earth. Unfortunately, they rejected Jesus as messiah.

### **The Law was Impossible to Keep-Matthew 5:17-48**

- Vs. 17-48 The Law was impossible to accomplish and to cleanse sins, so Jesus came to fulfill it and make it possible to cleanse one from sin. Matthew 5:17-20
- Vs. 21-22 Saying the smallest word from an angry heart.
- Vs. 23-26 Even in sacrifice, it did not take care of all sins.
- Vs. 27-30 The smallest lustful look or thought.
- Vs. 31-32 Unregulated divorce.
- Vs. 33-37 Always speak **truth** and fulfill it.
- Vs. 38-42 Do not seek revenge
- Vs. 43-48 Unconditional love.

### **What was the Answer to Obeying the Law in Regard to Salvation?**

- Matthew 5:48 "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."
- Ultimately, the Jewish nation was to be a light unto the world. They were to accept Jesus as Messiah and **proclaim** Him throughout the world. Unfortunately, the Jews rejected the Messiah, and the "Church Age" was born (Acts 2).
- Salvation is **free** to all who accept Jesus as savior and Lord. Today, the Gospel message is spread throughout the world, not by the Jewish nation but, by the Church (the body of Christ-all believers).
- Jesus told the crowd how impossible it was to keep the Jewish laws. In chapter 5, Jesus set the bar for murder, reconciliation, adultery, divorce, oaths, restraint, and love so high that no one could ever accomplish it completely. For this reason, Jesus stated in vs. 48, "Therefore you are to be **perfect**, as your heavenly Father is perfect.
- Jesus was trying to tell the crowd that it was impossible to please God since His standard of living was impossible to accomplish. The only way a person could ever please God and come into fellowship with Him would be through Jesus Christ.

## Chapter 6:1-24; 7:1-13 The Hypocrisy of the Pharisees

- Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of the pharisees' almsgiving, prayer, fasting, money, judging, and relationships.
- The Sermon on the Mount concluded with a **salvation** plan (7:13-14; 24-27). Jesus was telling the crowd that many would try to enter heaven through good deeds, riches, etc. however, only those who accepted Jesus Christ would enter heaven.

## The Gospel of John

### Chapter 5

#### **Vs. 1-47-Jesus Heals a Lame Man**

- Jesus returned to Jerusalem for a feast (possibly the Passover Feast). There was a pool named **Bethesda**, which had five columns.
- Archaeological discoveries have uncovered this pool. It was a double pool with a dividing wall between the two pools. A pillar stood in between the two pools and acted as a support. Thus, five columns were needed for support-four for each corner and one in the middle.
- A man who had been lame for **38** years would lie at the pool each day and wait for an angel of the Lord to stir the waters. It appears the man was lame due to sin in his life (vs. 14).
- Jesus told the man to get up, pick up his pallet, and walk. Walking with his bedroll on the Sabbath was a direct **violation** of Jewish traditions (this was not part of the Mosaic Laws but were laws made up by the religious leaders). When challenged by the Pharisees for working on the Sabbath, Jesus stated, "My father is working until now, and I Myself am working."
- Vs. 18 made it clear that Jesus was claiming to be **God**. Vs. 24 states that all who heard Jesus' words and believed in Him would have eternal life. Jesus demonstrated that God would raise the dead in the resurrection and the Son would give spiritual life to those dead in their sins.
- The Jews believed they would **automatically** be part of the resurrection since they were Jews by birth. Jesus explained that only those who believed in Him would be resurrected.

## **The Gospel of Mark 6-Jesus' Miracles**

### **Vs. 7-10, 30-34-Disciples Commissioned**

- The disciples were commissioned to go throughout the region and preach repentance.
  - The disciples were given **authority** to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, and cast out demons.

- The disciples returned from their mission and reported to Jesus all that happened.
  - This display of power among the disciples was **temporary**.
  - After Jesus came down from the mount of transfiguration, he encountered a father who had a demon-possessed son. Jesus cast the demon out since the disciples were unable to do so.
- Jesus took the disciples to a **secluded** place to rest.
  - There will be times in your life where you may have mountain top experiences.
  - These experiences might not always **last**. Sometimes God brings us down from the mountain top for us to rest, relax, and trust his leadership.
  - During these times of rest, it might feel that God has **abandoned** us. We may not see Him working; we may not feel His presence; and we may not hear his voice. Do not let these times fool you. God is as near to you as He was on your mountain top experience.
- As Jesus and His disciples left in a boat, the crowd followed them from the shore-line.
  - When Jesus and the disciples went ashore, they were met by the **crowd**.
    - This was probably the north-east shore of the Sea of Galilee.



*Galilean Ministry of Jesus*

<http://www.godweb.org/maps/123.htm>

- So much for the rest. The disciples were probably, and reasonably so, annoyed with this interruption. Little did they know; this interruption was about to bring them an astonishing **miracle**.

### **The Gospel of John 6:26-30-The Crowds Seek a Miracle**

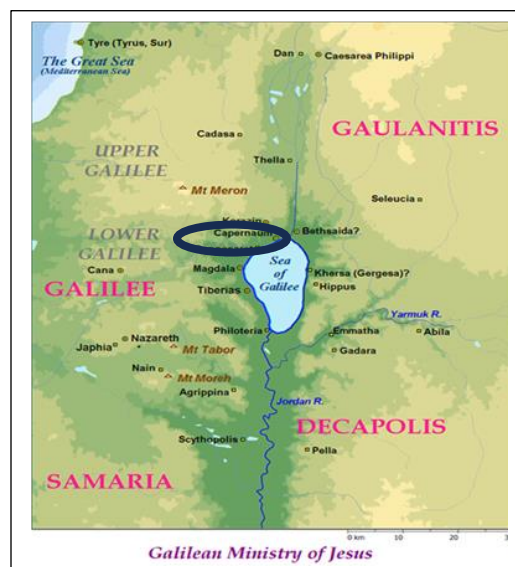
- The next day, the crowds went to the other side of the lake (Sea of Galilee) to find Jesus. When Jesus saw the crowds, He confronted them for not seeking Him but seeking the food He could provide. Jesus stated that the work of God was to **believe** in Him (Jesus) whom God had sent.
- In verse 30 The crowds asked, “What then do You do for a **sign**, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do you perform?” They had seen Jesus’ miracle the day before and still did not believe.
- Jesus compared the manna given to the Children of Israel to the bread of God, which was **Jesus**. Jesus stated in vs. 35 that only those who came to Him would never hunger or thirst again.
- Vs. 38-40, 44 are classic verses for eternal **security**. No one would ever lose their salvation who had received Jesus as their personal savior.

### **The Gospel of Mark**

#### **Vs. 6:35-44-Jesus Feeds 5,000**

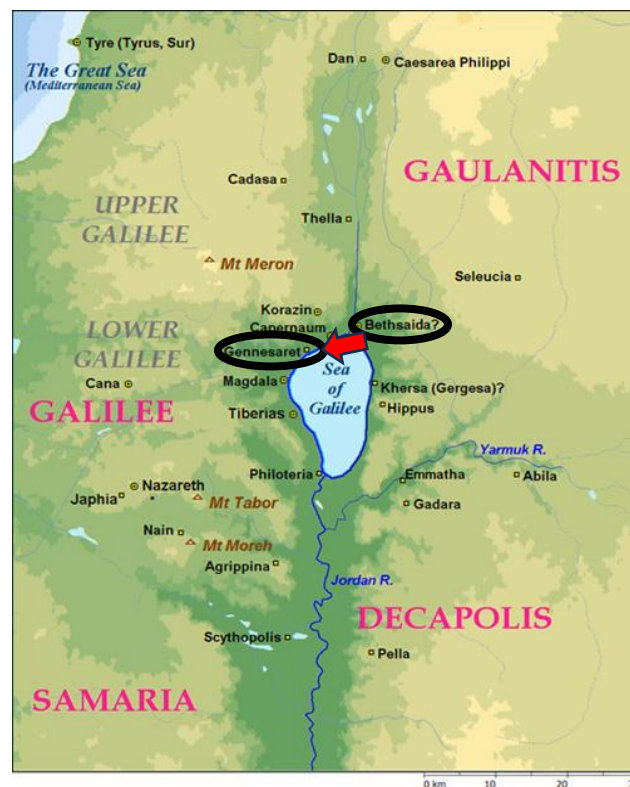
- Since the crowds were in a secluded place, the disciples were concerned about the food situation.
  - They were **astonished** when Jesus told them to provide the food. The disciples had just returned from raising the dead, healing the sick, and casting out demons, however, they still lacked faith.
- Jesus took five loaves and two fish and fed over **5,000** people.

#### **Vs. 45-52-Jesus walks on the Water**



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- Jesus sent the disciples to Bethsaida (northeast shore) by boat while he stayed behind.
- A severe storm erupted and around 3:00-6:00 A.M. and Jesus came to them **walking** on the water.
- Jesus said, “Take **courage**, it is I, do not be afraid.” Jesus got into the boat and immediately he stopped the wind.
- The disciples were astonished for their hearts were hardened.
- Christian maturity takes place over a **lifetime**. We will not be fully mature until we enter heaven. Some of our greatest mountain top experiences often lead to our deepest valleys.
  - David stated what to do when residing in the deep valleys (Psalm 63:1-4).



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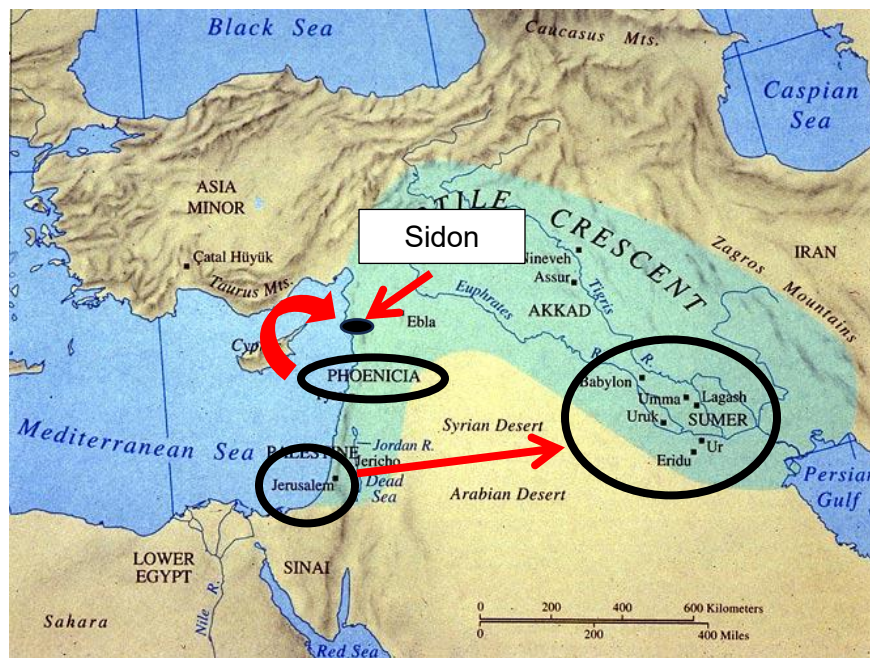
### **Vs. 53-56- Jesus Heals the Sick**

- Jesus and the disciples crossed over the lake to Gennesaret (northwest part of the Sea of Galilee-see map above).
- As the people touched the **fringe** of His cloak, they were healed.
- Great things were happening; however, **opposition** was coming.

### **Mark 7-Traditions**



## Vs. 1-23 The Pharisees' Traditions



<http://ancientbabylonia.blogspot.com.es/>

- The Pharisees challenged Jesus over their custom of handwashing.
- Many of these **traditions** had become more important than scripture (Mark 7:8-9).
- Many of these traditions existed in oral form and were instituted at the time of the **Babylonian** captivity.
  - The Babylonian captivity (605 B.C., 597 B.C., 586 B.C.) shook the Jews to the core.
  - Instead of turning to God and His word, they instituted **unrealistic** laws thinking that hard work would earn God's favor 1 (Samuel 15:22).
- Jesus spoke to the crowd and said it was what proceeded **out** of a person that brought defilement (7:15-16-extra emphasis is added).
  - "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear." (Revelation 2:11, 29; 3:6, 13, 22).
  - In other words, "Do you **understand** what I am saying?"

### **Vs. 24-30-A Gentile Ministry-The Syrophoenician Woman**

- Jesus left the Sea of Galilee and went into the Phoenician city of Tyre. This was a **Gentile** city (see map above).
- A Gentile woman asked that Jesus heal her demon possessed daughter.
- Jesus did not respond out of rudeness. He was stating that His primary mission was to come as the Jewish **Messiah**. God always reached out to the Gentiles (Rahab the harlot from Jericho, Ruth the Moabites). Unfortunately, these Gentiles were often steeped in unbelief.

### **Vs. 31-37-A Gentile Ministry-Sidon and Decapolis**

- Jesus continued up from Tyre into **Sidon** (a Gentile city) and then back down to the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee. This was the region of Decapolis (Greek cities).
- Jesus put his fingers in a man's ears and touched his tongue with saliva. This act probably was an indication that He was going to restore both ears and speech.
- Jesus did not want this miracle announced. It is possible that Jesus did not want a large **Gentile** following since they were in Gentile country and Jesus' primary mission was to the Jews. The Gentile ministry would occur after Pentecost (Acts 2).

### **Summary**

Jesus gave "signs" to the Jewish people. Some believed Him to be the Messiah, others did not believe in Him. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that He would give her living water. She and those in her city believed Jesus' words. Jesus told a Capernaum official that his son would live, and he believed Jesus' word. Jesus made a lame man walk but the crowds did not believe Him to be the Messiah. Jesus fed five thousand people and they did not believe.

Are we willing to take the words of Jesus (the Scriptures) and believe each word? Do we constantly ask for signs to believe? We should not put our trust in Christ because of circumstances but because of His words. Christ promised to take care of our needs and He would always be with us. Hard times may come, as did the storm at sea, but Jesus will always walk beside us saying, "It is I; do not be afraid."



## Discussion Questions Chapter 24

1. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus states that those who were hungry and thirsty for righteousness would be satisfied.
  - a. Do you feel people are hungering and thirsting for righteousness today? Explain.
  - b. How does Jesus satisfy spiritual hunger?
  - c. Have you ever had a time in your life when you felt spiritually hungry? Did Jesus satisfy your need? Explain.
  
2. According to Matthew 28:19-20, the Christian church is to spread the Gospel throughout the world.
  - a. Do you feel the “church” has accomplished or is accomplishing the Great Commission of Matthew 28?
  - b. What are ways that we can help in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
  - c. Have you ever tried to tell someone about Jesus only to be shut down? How did it feel? What did you do?
  
3. Jesus condemned the pharisees for their hypocrisy in giving alms, praying, fasting, etc. without caring for the people.
  - a. Is it possible for Christians to do good works without having a real heart for the lost? Explain.
  - b. What are some distractions that might cause a Christian to lose heart in preaching the Gospel?
  - c. How can these distractions be remedied?
  
4. The Bible tells us that for 38 years a man tried to get into the pool of Bethesda. Unfortunately, no one allowed him to be the first one into the water.
  - a. Has there ever been a time when you passed by someone who needed help? How did you feel afterward?
  - b. Here is a scenario: You are late for work and you are expected to give an important presentation. You pass someone who has a flat tire and they wave at you to stop. What should you do?
  - c. What can we do to develop a heart for others?
  
5. The Disciples were commissioned and empowered to preach the Gospel.
  - a. Has Jesus empowered us for such a commission? Explain.
  - b. What are some ways that we can preach the Gospel?
  - c. Have you ever experienced God’s power when talking to someone about Jesus? Explain.