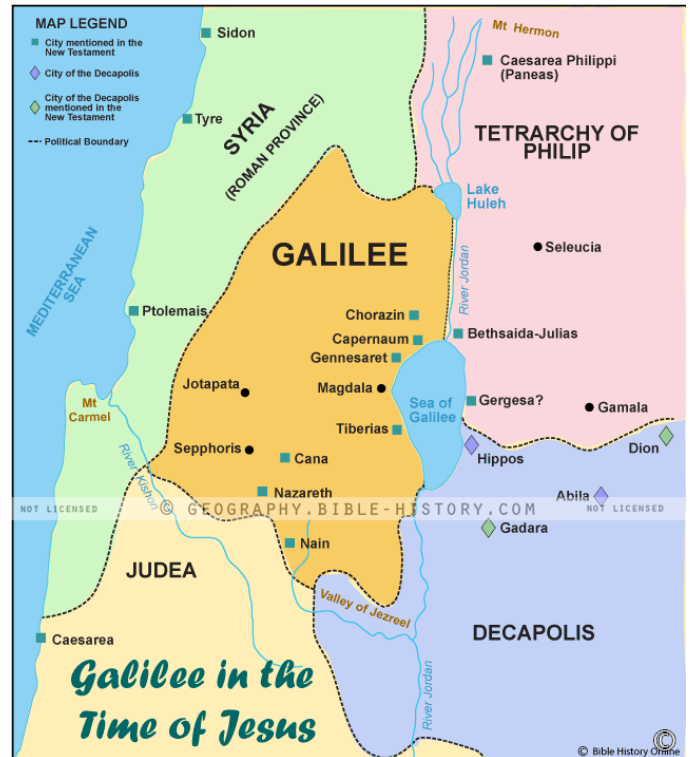


Session 11: Mark 7:31-8:26

JESUS HEALS THE DEAF-MUTE

1. Read Mark 7:31-37. In Mark 7:6b-7, Jesus quotes Isaiah 29:13 in His discussion over what is clean and unclean. Now, in describing this miracle, Mark evokes more of Isaiah 29. Read Isaiah 29:18a. What messages are further conveyed by Mark?
2. In healing the deaf mute, what was the significance of Jesus' unusual gestures?
3. The Aramaic vocable, "Ephphatha" and the use of saliva were taken up early in Rome and Milan as part of the baptismal rite. In more modern times the "Ephphatha Liturgy" has become a prayer. Pastor Schultz has incorporated this prayer into the baptismal liturgy at the time of the giving of the baptismal candle.



“May the Lord Jesus, who made the deaf hear and the dumb speak, soon touch your ears to hear His Word and your mouth to proclaim the praise of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

4. Reread verse 35. What is being fulfilled through this miracle? Read Isaiah 35:5-6. How does this miracle extend further than Isaiah's prophecy?
5. What do the crowds acclaim concerning Jesus? (vs.37)

JESUS FEEDS FOUR THOUSAND

6. Read Mark 8:1-10. What is the important message of this miracle?
7. Why seven loaves and seven baskets?

PHARISEES

8. Read Mark 8:11-21. Why did the Pharisees ask for a “sign from heaven”?

9. Why is it important that faith is not based on proof?

10. In this context, can you define the “leaven of the Pharisees”?

GAINING SIGHT IN STAGES

11. Read Mark 8:22-26. Look again at 7:31-37 and the healing of the deaf and mute man. Note parallels in the 2 miracles.
 - A. Both men are _____ by others
 - B. They _____ to touch their friend
 - C. The man is _____—Messianic secret
 - D. Jesus’ _____ applied to the _____ body parts (tongue/eyes)
 - E. Jesus places _____ on the man
 - F. Their bodies _____ properly
 - G. _____ are made—tell no one/do not enter village

12. Reread Isaiah 35:5-6. What again is the theological emphasis of this miracle?

13. Unlike the healing in chapter 7, this healing does not go smoothly (completed in 2 stages). Why?