



The International Ministry of Jesus Christ

Mark 3:7-12

I. The International Outreach of Christ's Ministry (7-8)

- Mark 3:6 – The Pharisees went out and immediately *began* conspiring with the Herodians against Him, *as to* how they might destroy Him.
- Cf. Matt. 12:15 - But Jesus, aware of *this*, withdrew from there. Many followed Him.
- Mark 3:7a – Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples.

John Paton

- “Mr. Dickson, you are advanced in years now, and your own prospect is soon to be laid in the grave, there to be eaten by worms. I confess to you, that if I can but live and die serving and honoring the Lord Jesus, it will make no difference to me whether I am eaten by Cannibals or by worms. And in the Great Day my Resurrection body will rise as fair as yours in the likeness of our risen Redeemer.”



Galilee shoreline from above

Mark 3:7-12

- **Proposition:** Jesus' ministry beyond Israel anticipates, authenticates, and commands the church's mission to the world.



Jordan River entering Sea of Galilee aerial



Place where the Jordan River enters the Sea of Galilee

Jesus International Ministry

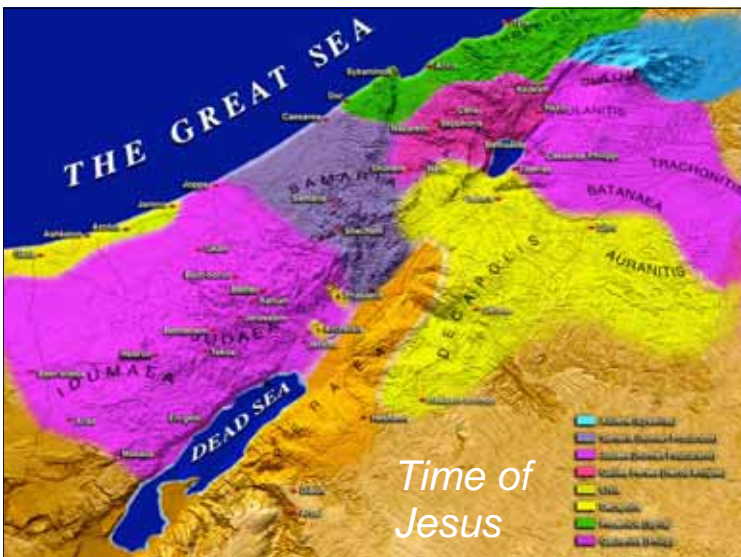
- Jesus would actually go to these places.
 - Galilee (1:14)
 - Judea & Jerusalem – constant; cf. 11:11
 - Transjordan (5:1; 10:1)
 - Tyre and Sidon (7:24, 31)
- An assortment of people:
 - Judea and Jerusalem, primarily Jewish
 - Idumea, & beyond the Jordan – mixed
 - Galilee – mixed; called “Galilee of the Gentiles”
 - Decapolis, Tyre, and Sidon – almost exclusively Gentile.

I. The International Outreach of Christ’s Ministry (7-8)

- 3:7b – and a great multitude from Galilee followed; and *also* from Judea, and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He was doing and came to Him.
- Two separate crowds:
 - 1) Lit., “A great multitude from Galilee followed” (7b)
 - 2) Lit., “From [various other places] a great multitude hearing what He was doing came to Him.”

II. The Consistent Character of Christ’s Ministry (9-12)

- **A. Teaching (9)**
 - 3:9 – And He told His disciples that a boat should stand ready for Him because of the crowd.
 - 1) “So that they would not crowd Him.”
 - 2) Another reason: [4:1-2](#)
 - 1:14-15 – Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, 15 and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”



II. The Consistent Character of Christ’s Ministry (9-12)

- **A. Teaching (9)**
 - 9 – And He told His disciples that a boat should stand ready for Him because of the crowd.
- **B. Healing (10)**
 - 10 – for He had healed many, with the result that all those who had afflictions pressed around Him in order to touch Him.
- **C. Casting out demons (11-12)**
 - 11 – Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, “You are the Son of God!”

A Few who Understood

- The Demons (1:24; 3:11; 5:7)
- The Father (1:11)
- Three disciples (9:7)
- At Jesus' trial (14:61-62)
- The Centurion at the Cross (15:39)

The Message of Scripture

- The Abrahamic Covenant: "in you all nations of the earth will be blessed" (Gen. 12:3; 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; 28:14)
- Ex. 19:6 – "a kingdom of priests"
 - Cf. 1 Pet. 2:9 - you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's OWN POSSESSION*, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- Is. 42:6 – "I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, And I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations,
- Jonah – God's mercy on repentant gentiles

II. The Consistent Character of Christ's Ministry (9-12)

- **A. Teaching (9)**
- **B. Healing (10)**
- **C. Casting out demons (11-12)**
 - 11 – Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, "You are the Son of God!"
 - 12 – And He earnestly warned them not to tell who He was.
 - Why?
 - 1) Undesirable witnesses because of their evil.
 - 2) Undesirable witnesses because of the accusation that Jesus was in league with the demons.
 - 3) Jesus not ready for this message to be fully revealed and known.

The Consistent Message of Scripture

- Simeon about Jesus in Luke 2:30-32 – my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel."
- In the outreach of the early church (Acts 3:25-26; 11:18; 13:46-48; 15:14-18)
- The focus of Paul's mission (Acts 9:15; 21:19; 22:21; 26:17-18, 23; 28:28)
- Rom. 15:8-12
- Gal. 3:8, 28-29

III. The International Design of Christ's Ministry

- Matt. 10:5-6 – These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: "Do not go in *the* way of *the* Gentiles, and do not enter *any* city of the Samaritans; but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- Matt. 12:17-21

Two Primary Implications

- God intended that all the world benefit from the ministry of Christ.
 - Is. 56:8; John 10:16; 11:52; Eph. 2:13-18
- Jesus' international ministry anticipates, authenticates, and demands the church's mission to the world.
 - Cf. Luke 24:44-47