

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Three

Healing the Sick of Gennesaret

Text: Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-56

Introduction:

1. In recent lessons, it has been noted how more people began to reject and turn against Jesus.
2. Also, Jesus attempted to withdraw from the crowd to a degree for several reasons.
3. In spite of this, Jesus continued to perform mighty miracles as He preached the Gospel. { *These included feeding the 5,000 men and walking on the water.* }
4. After Jesus and Peter got into the boat with the other apostles, they immediately were transported to their destination – the land of Gennesaret.
5. The events that occur in this setting would result in a great division among those who followed Jesus.

I. The Miracle

- A. When Jesus arrived in Gennesaret, it would have been nearing the time of sunrise.
 1. Gennesaret is the name of the region on the northwestern side of the Sea of Galilee that included cities like Capernaum.
 2. The Sea of Galilee was also known as Lake Gennesaret (cf. Luke 5:1).
 3. It is interesting that Capernaum is not mentioned in this text.
- B. When the group exited the boat, the people recognized Jesus.
- C. Thus, they began to gather the sick from the region and to bring them to Jesus.
- D. They only requested that they might touch the border of His garment and be healed.
- E. Mark says that “as many as touched Him were made whole.”

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus proves His deity by His power over sickness and disease.
- B. He also shows His compassion for those who are in need.

III. The Message

- A. Before they could be healed, they had to learn of and come to Jesus.
- B. Those who know the truth must tell those who do not know.
- C. True healing comes only through those things connected with Jesus.
- D. In spite of all the miracles He performed, Jesus was concerned more with spiritual healing.
 1. John 6:22-36 – Contrast of physical with spiritual
 2. John 6:37-66 – Jesus rejected due to his “hard sayings”
 3. John 6:67-71 – Rejection even among the apostles
 4. Matthew 15:1-20 – The Pharisees are offended and angered (Mk. 7:1-23)
 5. John 7:1 – The Jews desire His death
- E. May we learn the true purpose of miracles and recognize our dependence upon the Word of God.