

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Five

Healing a Man Both Deaf and Mute

Text: Mark 7:31-37

Introduction:

1. After traveling through Tyre and Sidon, Jesus and His disciples made their way back to the Sea of Galilee and the surrounding areas.
2. When they left, there was great division and anger among many of Jesus' followers and among the Pharisees.
3. Thus, when Jesus returned to Galilee, He traveled to the region of Decapolis.
 - a. Decapolis literally means, "ten cities." {*One of the ten was Gadara (cf. Mark 5).*}
 - b. It was located on the southeastern side of the Sea of Galilee.
 - c. Thus, it was across (on the east of) the Jordan River and in the country of the Gentiles.
4. So, Jesus is still avoiding the Jewish crowds who lately turned against Him.
5. Yet, He continues to work miracles and preach the Gospel.

I. The Miracle

- A. According to Matthew, this was only one of many miracles Jesus performed here (Matthew 15:29-31).
- B. A man was brought to Jesus who was deaf and unable to speak properly.
 1. Mark says he had "an impediment in his speech."
 2. Literally, he was "hardly talking," "tongue tied," or "speaking with difficulty."
- C. Their desire was for Jesus to "put His hand upon him."
 1. For whatever reason, their attention was focused on the outward action.
 2. Some suggest that this was due to the superstition of the people who were given to the practice of magic and other forms of trickery.
- D. In spite of their curiosity, Jesus took him away from the crowd.
- E. Jesus healed this man in what seems to be an unusual manner.
 1. Yet, Jesus' actions were probably a means of communicating with the deaf man about what was going to occur.
 2. Notice that Jesus' touching his ears or tongue did not heal the man. {*This is important to remember in healing where someone touched Jesus' clothes.*}
 3. It was the power of His word that opened his ears and loosed his tongue.
- F. Following this miracle, the people began to spread the word about Jesus' power.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus showed His deity while also demonstrating His submission to the Father.
- B. Each action of this miracle manifests the comforting compassion of the Savior.

III. The Message

- A. Jesus did not perform magic tricks to entertain a crowd – He healed the sick.
- B. Jesus helped all men, including the Gentiles and pagans.
- C. “Some of the most effective service rendered is in private.”
- D. Jesus does “all things well.”