

# Matthew Ch 15

*Class for Jan 15, 2023*

*Gospel of Matthew*

*Logos Class. Mod 5 Room 1*

# Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Jan 1, 2023 – YE review of 2022 and 2023 Look Ahead*
- ✓ *Jan 8, 2023 – Matthew Ch 14*
- ✓ *Jan 15, 2021 – Matthew Ch 15*
- *Jan 22, 2021 – Matthew Ch 16*
- *Jan 29, 2022 – Matthew Ch 17*

*My plan is to continue both In-Person and Zoom in 2023*

# What can we learn from this encounter?

- *Jesus' ministry and fame were spread throughout the land, both in Jewish areas and gentile pagan areas*
- *Large crowds followed Him, many to hear him, but many to be healed*
- *Jesus healed them all*
- *We learned that by Faith and keeping our eyes on Jesus and not the things around us, we can do extraordinary things*
- *We learned that the people who knew Jesus best...his hometown, the Jews in Capernaum, and the Jewish towns around Capernaum sought him for the miracles, not the message...they rejected the messenger because they could not set aside their tradition and see Him differently*
- *The Pagans/Gentiles took his Gospel message to heart. As it is now.*
- *The religious Jews in Jerusalem wanted to eliminate or discredit him because he was doing things only God could do, but they did not accept Him as the long-awaited Messiah*

# Matt Ch 15 – *Thoughts as we begin...*

*In Chapter 15 Jesus addresses a long-debated item in church history as well as Jewish History*

- *What actually defiles us as believers?*
  - *Our cleanliness*
  - *What we eat?*
  - *What we drink?*
  - *Rules we adhere to or don't?*
  - *Traditions we keep or don't?*
- *Jews had many laws regulating these and other items, but Jesus stretched the minds of the Jews and his disciples*

# Matt Ch 15:1-7a     *What defiles us?*

**1** *Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked,*

**2** *“Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don’t wash their hands before they eat!”*

**3** *Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?”*

**4** *For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’*

**5** ***But you say** that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is ‘**devoted to God,**’*

**6** *they are not to ‘honor their father or mother’ with it. **Thus, you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.***

**7** ***You hypocrites!** Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:*

# Matt Ch 15:7-9 Jesus quotes Isa: 29:13

***7 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:***

***8 ““These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.***

***9 They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are merely human rules.”***

*The Jews, especially the Pharisees were zealous about obeying all the rules, both Biblical and those added by the Elders. By telling them that they worship in Vain, Jesus goes to their hearts, and they are NOT happy,*



## Matt Ch 15:10-12 *Crowd gets a summary*

<sup>10</sup> *Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “**Listen and understand.**”*

<sup>11</sup> ***What goes into someone’s mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.”***

<sup>12</sup> *Then the disciples came to him and asked, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?”*

# What is Defilement Anyway?

*Defilement is not an external matter (keeping food laws, washing ceremonially, keeping Sabbath requirements), but an internal one.*

*The prophet Jeremiah also spoke to this:*

***Jeremiah 17:9-10***

<sup>9</sup> *The heart is deceitful above all things  
and beyond cure.*

*Who can understand it?*

<sup>10</sup> ***"I the LORD search the heart  
and examine the mind,  
to reward each person according to their conduct,  
according to what their deeds deserve."***



## Matt Ch 15:13-15 *Blind leading the Blind*

***13** He replied, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots.*

***14** Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.”*

***15** Peter said, “Explain the parable to us.”*

## Matt Ch 15:16-20 *Jesus breaks it down...*

*16 “Are you still so dull?” Jesus asked them.*

*17 “Don’t you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body?”*

*18 But the things that come out of a person’s mouth come from the heart, and these defile them.*

*19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.*

*20 These are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed hands does not defile them.”*

# Matt Ch 15

## *What about today?*

*Not only the Pharisees were Blind to God's Truth, but it is also a huge problem in the "church" today*

*Apostasy is everywhere, from the drifting away to the pulling directly away from God's Truth*

*Ministers of the Gospel who are actually fraudsters who deceive the naïve Sheep to send money or support self-aggrandizing ministries.*

*Denominational influences – All denominations or groups have things that are part of their tradition, that they discourage in their adherents. This is OK...**BUT** they never should be placed as equal to God's commands.*

*Reflections: Are we offended when someone does not adhere to our traditions and think less of them as Christians?*

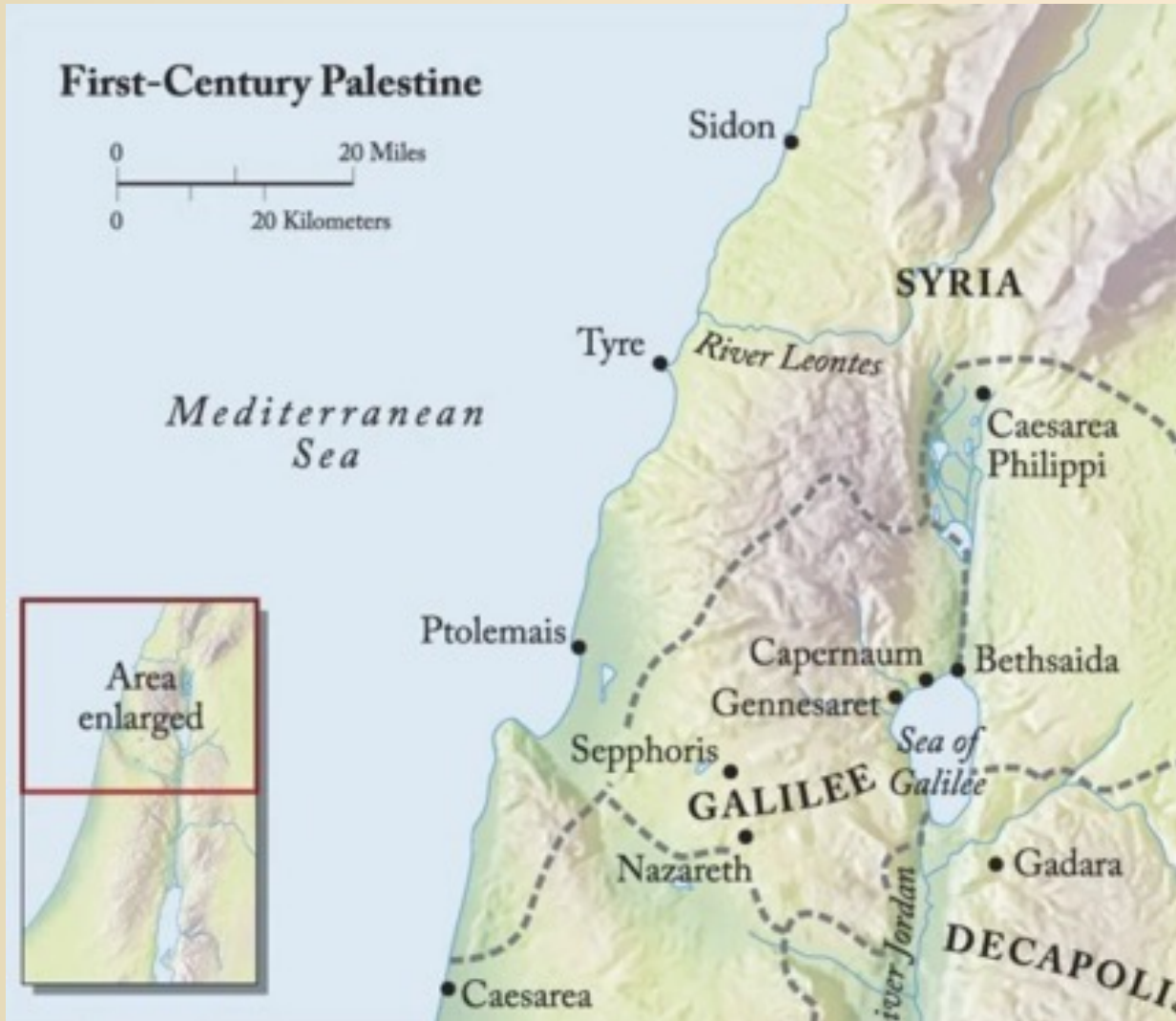
## Matt Ch 15:21-22 Jesus leaves to head to Tyre

***21** Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of **Tyre and Sidon.***

***22** A **Canaanite** woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out,*

***“Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”***

# Matt Ch 15: Map of the Area



## **Note:**

- *Gennesaret Area*
- *Tyre and Sidon*
- *About 30 miles to travel on foot*

## Matt Ch 15:23-25 Some explanation will help

*23 Jesus did not answer a word. So, his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”*

*24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”*

*25 The woman came and knelt before him.*

*“Lord, help me!” she said.*



## Matt Ch 15:26-28. *A lesson to be learned*

*<sup>26</sup> He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”*

*<sup>27</sup> “Yes, it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”*

*<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed **at that moment.***

# Matt Ch 15 *What is the Faith Lesson here?*

*Lesson for her, the disciples, and us:*

- ✓ ***First**, a reminder that their Faith in Him, and who He was critical to Him healing them. Her request was granted because of her humility, persistence, and Faith.*
- ✓ ***Second**, this was an extension of previous boundaries...a woman or her daughter, and a Gentile were healed recognizing their faith and His compassion, even in pagan lands.*
- ✓ ***Third**, He did not need to be present, speak to the demon, or even utter any kind of statement to drive out a demon and heal the daughter.*

# Matt Ch 15 The final part of Ch 15 is familiar but different

*Feeding of the 4,000*

*Similar to the Feeding of the 5,000 but different*

*Many of Jesus miracles and signs are not recorded in any of the Gospels*

*John 21:25*

***Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.***

*Let's take a look at the verses in Matthew*

## Matt Ch 15:29-32 Jesus returns to Gentile area near Galilee

*29 Jesus left there and went along the **Sea of Galilee**. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down.*

*30 **Great crowds** came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; **and he healed them.***

*31 **The people were amazed** when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. **And they praised the God of Israel.***

*32 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, **“I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way.”***

# Matt Ch 15:33-37 Another Miracle of Supply

***33 His disciples answered, “Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?”***

***34 “How many loaves do you have?” Jesus asked.***

***“Seven,” they replied, “and a few small fish.”***

***35 He told the crowd to sit down on the ground.***

***36 Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people.***

***37 They all ate and were satisfied. Afterward, the disciples picked up seven **basketfuls** of broken pieces that were left over.***

# Matt Ch 15: Baskets

*In the feeding of the 5,000 the word for Basket is **Kophinos** or large baskets.*

*In the feeding of the 4,000 the word for Basket (full) is*

***Spuris** - A different word. This is the same word used for the basket that Paul was lowered in, over the Damascus wall to escape the Jews in Acts 9:25. **So, these baskets were large enough to carry a person.***



# Matt Ch 15:39 Jesus heads to Magdala

*39 After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.*



# One Last Thing...

**One last thing.** There are differences in word usage and phrasing between Mark and Matthew, but Matthew was written to the **Jews** who would understand many of the idioms and phrasing that was used.

**For us, as gentiles...** sometimes these same phrases obscure the meaning. This is why reading the other Gospels with different audiences in mind will clarify what is being said.

# *For Next Week...*

- *Come back again...either in person or online through Zoom*
- *Read Matthew Chapters 16-17*
- *Pray for our country, State, County, and their leaders*
- *Pray for our Church, Pastors, and all members/visitors*
- *Pray for each other, and the specified prayer requests*
- ***God Bless you all***