(38) Healing at Gennesaret (Mt. 14:34-36; Mk. 6:53-56)

- 1. Gennesaret refers to the northwest coast of the Sea of Galilee (Sea of Gennesaret) from Capernaum to Magdala.
 - a. Josephus described the region in detail (Wars III x 8).
 - b. <u>Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible</u> has a good summary.
- Jesus and His disciples "moored to the shore" (anchored in a safe harbor) (Mk. 6:53).
 - a. προσορμίζω prosormizō #4358 Hap:
 to bring a ship to moorings,
 come to anchor (ὅρμος hormos).
 - b. A safe haven is supposed to be a place for rest, but no sooner is the Lord anchored then the workload explodes.
- 3. Peter already learned that getting out of the boat requires faith. When the Lord got out of the boat He had to keep His eyes fixed firmly on His work assignment.
 - a. Great fame could promote internal pride (Ezek. 28:16-17).
 - b. Severe demands could exhaust patience (Num. 20:10).
- 4. The inhabitants of Gennesaret "recognized" Jesus with an ἐπιγινώσκω epiginōskō **1921** full knowledge (Matt. 14:35; Mark 6:54).
 - a. The inhabitants of Gennesaret "ran about" and carried the afflicted "here and there" (Mk. 6:55).
 - b. Their sense of urgency prompted fast action (Mk. 6:56a).
 - c. Their recognition of His itinerary triggered their geographic adjustments within an overall proximity.
 - 1) They did not cross to the eastern shore chasing after Him.
 - 2) They maximized the opportunity during the time of His being near (cf. Jn. 12:35; Gal. 6:10).
 - 3) They sought to minimize His inconvenience by limiting His involvement to just being touched (Matt. 14:36; Mk. 6:56b cf. Matt. 9:20-21). κἄν kan #2579: even if, if only, at least.

