(42) Afflicted Healed (Mt. 15:29–31; Mk. 7:31–37)

1. The Lord’s “retreat” in the region of Tyre moved on through Sidon and Decapolis (Mk. 7:31). Decapolis was the region where the Evangelist Formerly Known as Legion ministered (Mk. 5:20).

2. Matthew highlights the large crowds that gathered for healing (Mt. 15:30).
   a. This episode shows a great parallel with Isa. 35:5–6 and demonstrates the nature of the Lord’s Second Advent.
   b. These gentile crowds glorified the God of Israel (Mt. 15:31).

3. Mark highlights one particular deaf and speech-impaired man (Mk. 7:32–36).
   a. κωφόν καὶ μογιλάλον κόρην και μογιλαλον. κωφός κόρης #2974: mute, deaf. μογιλάλος mogilalos #3424: difficult of speech, used only here and Isa. 35:6 LXX.
   b. Jesus isolated the man and provided one on one sign-language instruction (Mk. 7:33).
   c. The command for healing was uttered in the Aramaic language (Mk. 7:34). ἐφφαθα ephphatha #2188 Hiph. translated by the aor.pass.imper. διανοίγω dianoig #1272: be opened.

4. More Decapolis evangelists are sparked by virtue of this event (Mk. 7:36–37).