



Chapter 14:34-15:20

Matt. 14:34 **When** they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

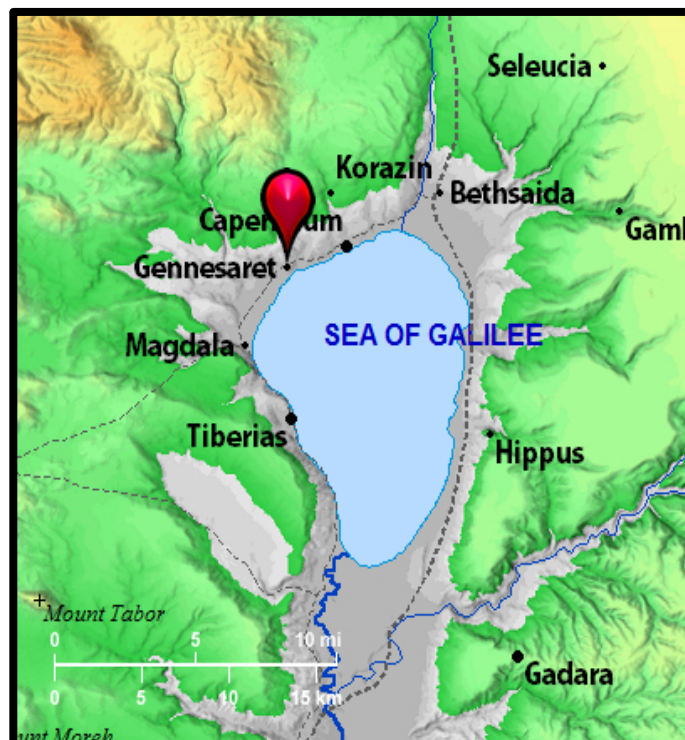
Matt. 14:35 And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick,

Matt. 14:36 and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well.

Matt. 15:1 **Then** the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying,

Matt. 15:2 “Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”

We’ve got more Bible text this evening than will fit on a page so open your Bibles and read the rest of our text beginning in Matthew 15:3 through verse 20.



Observations & Discussion

1. The words “**when**” (14:34) & “**then**” (15:1) provide the context for our study. What did Jesus do **when** He arrived in the land of Gennesaret (think about & articulate the magnitude of what He did as described by Matthew)? How did the religious leaders **then** respond to Jesus’ works?
2. It seems pretty clear that the spiritual priorities of the religious leaders were mixed up! In a word (**literally in one word**—hint it’s used 3 times in our text) what were they so upset about and why? Do you think some Christians today are guilty of the same sin? Give an example.
3. In 15:3-9 Jesus comes down hard on the religious leaders. List below the sins of which they were guilty: Can Christians be guilty of the same sins? If so provide an example.
4. Compare what Jesus said in 15:10-11 with Mark 7:18-19, & Acts 10:9-16. What would you say to a Seventh Day Adventist or someone from the Hebrew Roots Movement who told you that Christians have to eat according to the Jewish dietary law?
5. In 15:13 Jesus reveals a truth that He taught in one of the parables that we recently studied—which parable?
6. The section of Scripture we studied tonight could be titled, “Truth vs. _____” (the word from question #2). Which does Jesus want you to pursue and how can you tell the difference between the two?