

Mark 2:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went forth again by the sea side; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them.

Analysis

Jesus 'went forth again by the sea side'—returning to public ministry after the intense confrontation with scribes. The Sea of Galilee served as a frequent teaching venue in Jesus' ministry, providing natural acoustics and space for crowds. The phrase 'all the multitude resorted unto him' (πᾶς ὁ ὄχλος ἤρχετο πρὸς αὐτόν) emphasizes universal interest—people from all backgrounds seeking Jesus. The imperfect tense indicates continuous action—crowds kept coming repeatedly. Jesus' response ('he taught them') reveals His primary mission: proclaiming God's kingdom and truth. While miracles authenticated His authority, teaching constituted His core ministry. Reformed theology emphasizes Christ's prophetic office—He is the ultimate Prophet revealing God's will, superior to Moses and all prophets.

Historical Context

The Sea of Galilee (also called Lake Gennesaret, 13 miles long and 8 miles wide) was central to Galilean economic and social life. Fishing, trade, and transportation all centered on this freshwater lake. Jesus frequently taught from boats just offshore, using the water as natural amplification. The area around Capernaum featured gently sloping shores ideal for large gatherings. Jesus' teaching ministry differed from formal rabbinic education in synagogues—He taught publicly, in open-air settings, to mixed audiences including women, children, and the ceremonially unclean.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' priority on teaching challenge modern church emphases on entertainment, experiences, or social programs over biblical exposition?
2. What draws you to Jesus—His miracles and benefits, or His words of eternal life?
3. How can you make receiving biblical teaching a central priority in your spiritual life?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἐξῆλθεν	πάλιν	παρὰ	τὴν	θάλασσαν·	καὶ	πᾶς	ὁ
And	he went forth	again	by	G3588	the sea side	And	all	G3588
G2532	G1831	G3825	G3844		G2281	G2532	G3956	
ὄχλος	ἤρχετο	πρὸς	αὐτούς	καὶ	ἐδίδασκεν	αὐτούς		
the multitude	resorted	unto	him	And	he taught	him		
G3793	G2064	G4314	G846	G2532	G1321	G846		

Additional Cross-References

Mark 4:1 (Parallel theme): And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.