

# Mark 3:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judaea,

## Analysis

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Jesus 'withdrew...to the sea'—strategic retreat, not cowardly flight. 'A great multitude from Galilee followed' despite religious leaders' opposition. The list of regions (Galilee, Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond Jordan, Tyre, Sidon) demonstrates widespread fame extending into Gentile regions. This foreshadows gospel expansion to all nations. The multitude's size and diversity reveals common people recognized Jesus' authority despite official rejection. Reformed theology: evidence of God's sovereign election from every tribe and nation.

## Historical Context

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The geographical scope is remarkable. Galilee (northern) was Jesus' ministry base. Judea and Jerusalem (south) represented religious establishment. Idumea (ancient Edom) was semi-Gentile. 'Beyond Jordan' refers to Perea (east). Tyre and Sidon (northwest coastal) were Gentile Phoenician territories. This diverse crowd fulfills prophecies of Messiah drawing all nations (Isaiah 49:6; 60:3).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus' strategic withdrawal teach wisdom in facing opposition?
2. What does the diverse crowd reveal about the gospel's universal appeal?
3. How does this encourage you when facing rejection from religious authorities?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἀνεχώρησεν μετὰ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτῷ,  
But G3588 Jesus withdrew himself with G3588 disciples him  
G2532 G2424 G402 G3326 G3101 G846

πρὸς τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ πολὺ πλῆθος ἀπὸ τῆς  
to G3588 the sea But a great multitude from G3588  
G4314 G2281 G2532 G4183 G4128 G575

Γαλιλαίας ἤκολούθησαν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς Ἰουδαίας  
Galilee followed him But from G3588 Judaea  
G1056 G190 G846 G2532 G575 G2449

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 4:25** (Parallel theme): And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.

**Luke 6:17** (Parallel theme): And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;

**Matthew 12:15** (References Jesus): But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;