

Mark 8:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And straightway he entered into a ship with his disciples, and came into the parts of Dalmanutha.

Analysis

Straightway he entered into a ship (εὐθὺς, euthys)—Mark's characteristic 'immediately' emphasizes rapid transition from public ministry to private instruction. Jesus withdraws from Gentile territory after the feeding, crossing back to Jewish regions. **Came into the parts of Dalmanutha**—location unknown, possibly near Magdala on Galilee's western shore (Matthew 15:39 mentions 'Magdala'). The geographic detail emphasizes historical precision.

This movement from Gentile Decapolis to Jewish territory sets up the following confrontation with Pharisees (v. 11). Jesus' ministry alternates between Jewish and Gentile regions, demonstrating that the kingdom transcends ethnic boundaries. The boat journey recalls Israel's crossing from wilderness to Promised Land—Jesus leads a new exodus not confined to ethnic Israel but encompassing all who believe.

Historical Context

Dalmanutha's precise location remains debated—possibly modern Khirbet el-Minyeh or Ain el-Barideh near Magdala. The Sea of Galilee was roughly seven miles wide; boat crossings took 2-4 hours depending on wind. These frequent crossings exposed disciples to Jesus' sovereignty over nature (calming storms) and demonstrated His intentional border-crossing ministry. First-century Jews strictly avoided Gentile territory to maintain ritual purity; Jesus' repeated crossings challenged these boundaries.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' movement between Jewish and Gentile territories model the gospel's boundary-crossing nature?
2. What 'territories' or people groups might Jesus be calling you to cross into with the gospel?
3. How does Jesus' 'straightway' withdrawal after ministry demonstrate the rhythm of public service and private retreat?

Interlinear Text

Kαὶ	εὐθὲως	έμβας	εἰς	τὸ	πλοῖον	μετὰ	τῶν	μαθητῶν
And	straightway	he entered	into	G3588	a ship	with	G3588	disciples
G2532	G2112	G1684	G1519		G4143	G3326		G3101

αὐτοῦ	ῆλθεν	εἰς	τὰ	μέρη	Δαλμανουθά		
G846	and came	into	G3588	the parts	of Dalmanutha		
	G2064	G1519		G3313		G1148	

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 15:39 (Parallel theme): And he sent away the multitude, and took ship, and came into the coasts of Magdala.