

The Messiah is Good

Mark 7:34-37

1. God Sees Human Need and Not Human Status vs. 24-30

Jesus began ministering in Tyre, a gentile territory filled with people that the Pharisees would view as unclean (not redeemable). However, Jesus revealed through His interaction with the Greek Syrian Phoenician woman that although the Messiah is for the Jews, His mission does not exclude the needs of the gentiles; Jesus came to save the world. (Isaiah 49:6)

The Good News is offered to the world, both to the Jews and to the Gentiles (Romans 1:16-17). Jesus made this clear through the goodness and love that he lavished upon this Greek Syrian Phoenician woman.

2. God is the one who creates and who renews creation vs. 31-37

As Jesus continued His ministry in gentile territory (Decapolis), Jesus displays His own desire for creation to be restored, as the Messiah came to provide renewal; like this man who was burdened by deafness and the inability to speak.

Jesus restoring this man's hearing and speech is a reminder of God's acts of creation and new creation; the outcome, "it is very good". (Genesis 1:31)

Although we live in a broken world where humanity is trapped in their bondage to sin, Jesus came to pay the price for all sin so that those who have chosen to receive Him as their Lord and Saviour would be renewed. (1 Corinthians 5:16-21)

Questions:

1. Why was she satisfied with mere crumbs? What can we learn from her attitude?
2. What difference does it make in your everyday life that Jesus has all power and authority over the world?

3. Read Genesis 1. Jesus has come for the purpose to renew creation. When you observe Genesis 1 and Mark 7:31-37, what is the observation that has been made towards God's work in creation? How can you use this truth in your everyday life?
4. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—" (Psalm 107:1). Share a part of your own story that emphasizes how God is good; His love endures forever.