

Acts Series

Lesson #68

May 1, 2012

Dean Bible Ministries

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The Acts of the Apostles “To the end of the earth” Acts 1:8

Samaria: Signs, Spirits, Simony, and Salvation Acts 8:9–18



Focus	Witness in Jerusalem				Witness in Judea & Samaria		Witness to the Ends of the Earth				
	1:1	7:60		8:1	12:25		13:1	28:31			
Divisions	Promise of the H.S.		Progress of the Church		Expansion of the Church		Paul's Three Journeys		Paul's Three Trials		
	1:1	1:26	2:1	7:60	8:1	12:25		13:1	21:16	21:17	28:31
Topics	Jews				Samaritans		Gentiles				
	Peter				Philip Peter		Paul				
Place	Jerusalem				Judea & Samaria		Uttermost Part				
Time	2 Years (A.D. 33–35)				13 Years (A.D. 35–48)		14 Years (A.D. 48–62)				

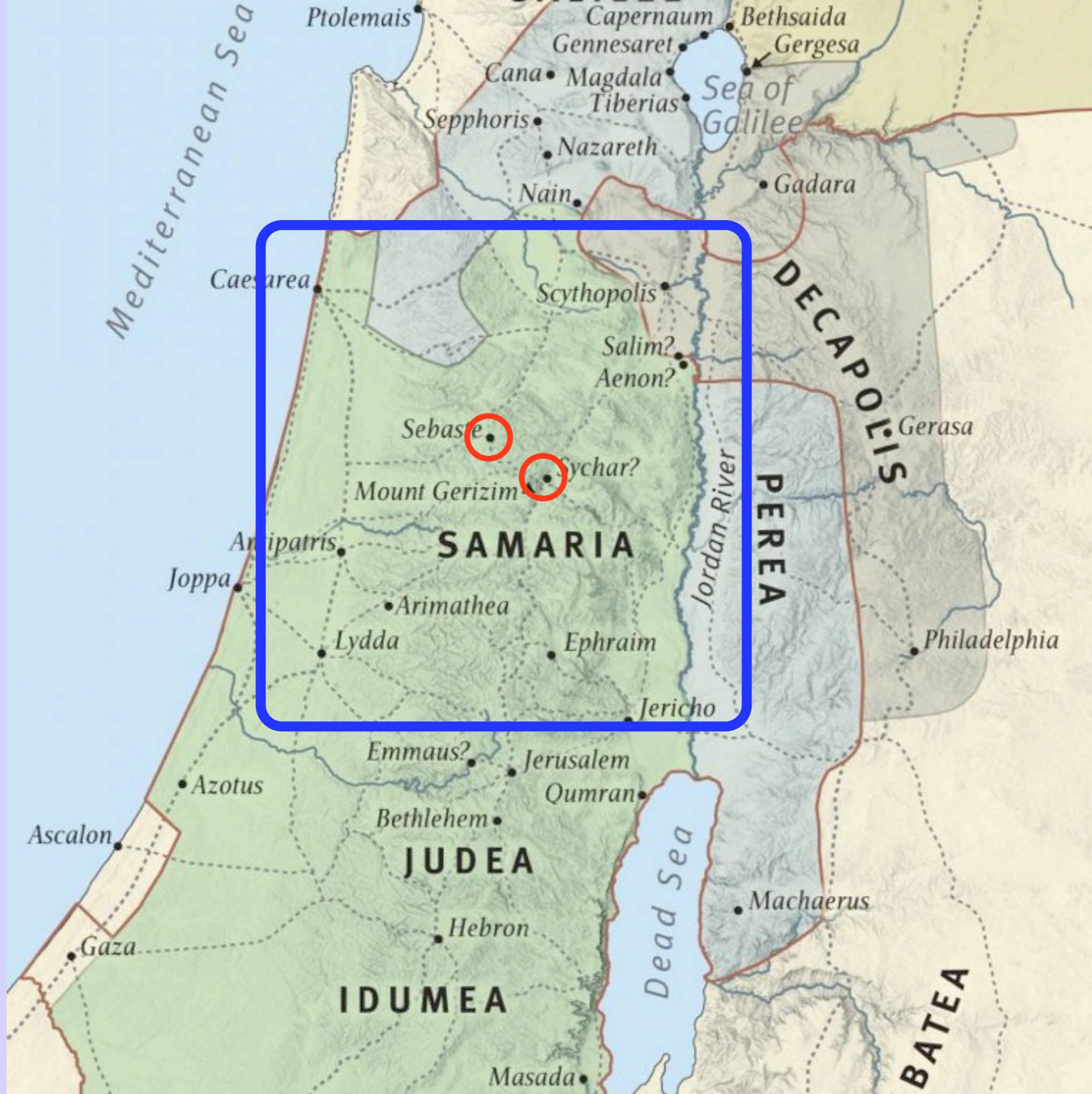
Outline

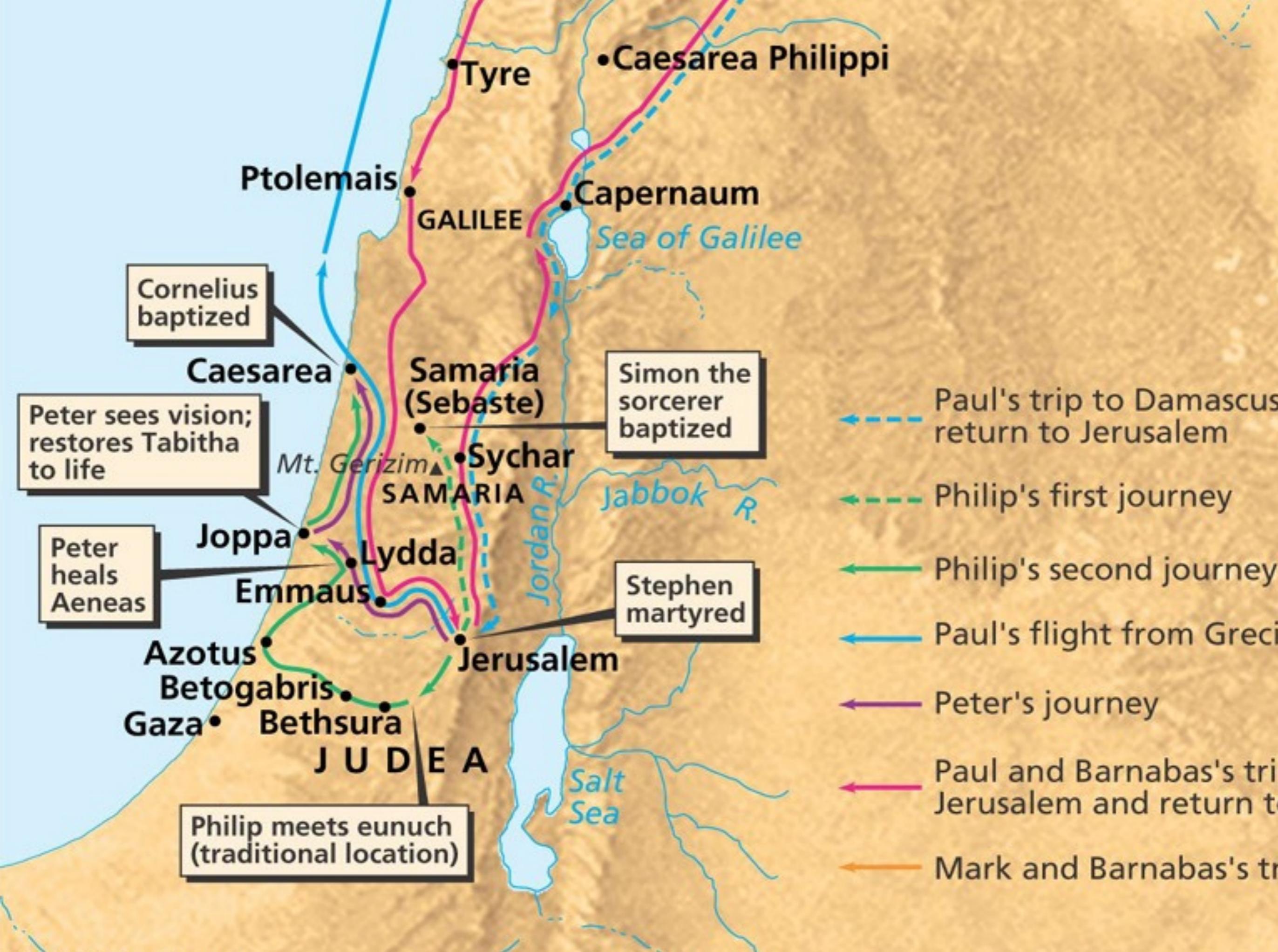
II. God expands the witness of the Church into Judea and Samaria. (8:1–12:25)

A. God allows persecution to drive the Church out of Jerusalem. 8:1–4

B. God sends Philip out to the Samaritans and demonstrates their unity with the work in Jerusalem by a similar outpouring of the Holy Spirit by the hands of Peter and John. 8:4–40

C. God saves Saul which prepares the way for the Gentiles. 9:1–31





Acts 8:5, “Then Philip went down to ~~[the]~~ city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.

Acts 8:6, “And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

Acts 8:7, “For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.

Acts 8:8, “And there was great joy in that city.”

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pneuma akatharta;
a reference to demons;
immaterial evil spirits;
contact with them rendered a
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ἔχων δαιμόνια *echon daimonia* “to have a demon”

The Doctrine of Demon Possession

1. Debate: Does the Bible really teach demon possession?

What does “possess” mean?

Ownership; to have an ability or quality, have power over (as in demon possession) to dominate the mind of someone. (OED)

Influenced or controlled by something, i.e., as in an evil spirit, a passion, or an idea.

****The imprecision of the English term “possess” has created confusion.**

The Doctrine of Demon Possession

2. Terminology:

Demons:

δαιμόνιον *daimonion* demon

τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ πονηρὸν *to pneuma to paneron* evil spirit

πνεύμα ἀκάθαρτα *pneuma akatharta*; unclean spirit

The Doctrine of Demon Possession

2. Terminology:

Demon “possession”:

to have (a) demon(s) ἔχων δαιμόνια *echon daimonia*

Luke 8:26ff

δαιμονίζομαι *daimonizomai* aor pass part masc sing nom to be demon possessed, demonized (Luke 8:36)

“to have a demon” = “*daimonizomai*”

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But these terms are ambiguous. What does it mean to have a demon or to be “demonized?”

The Doctrine of Demon Possession

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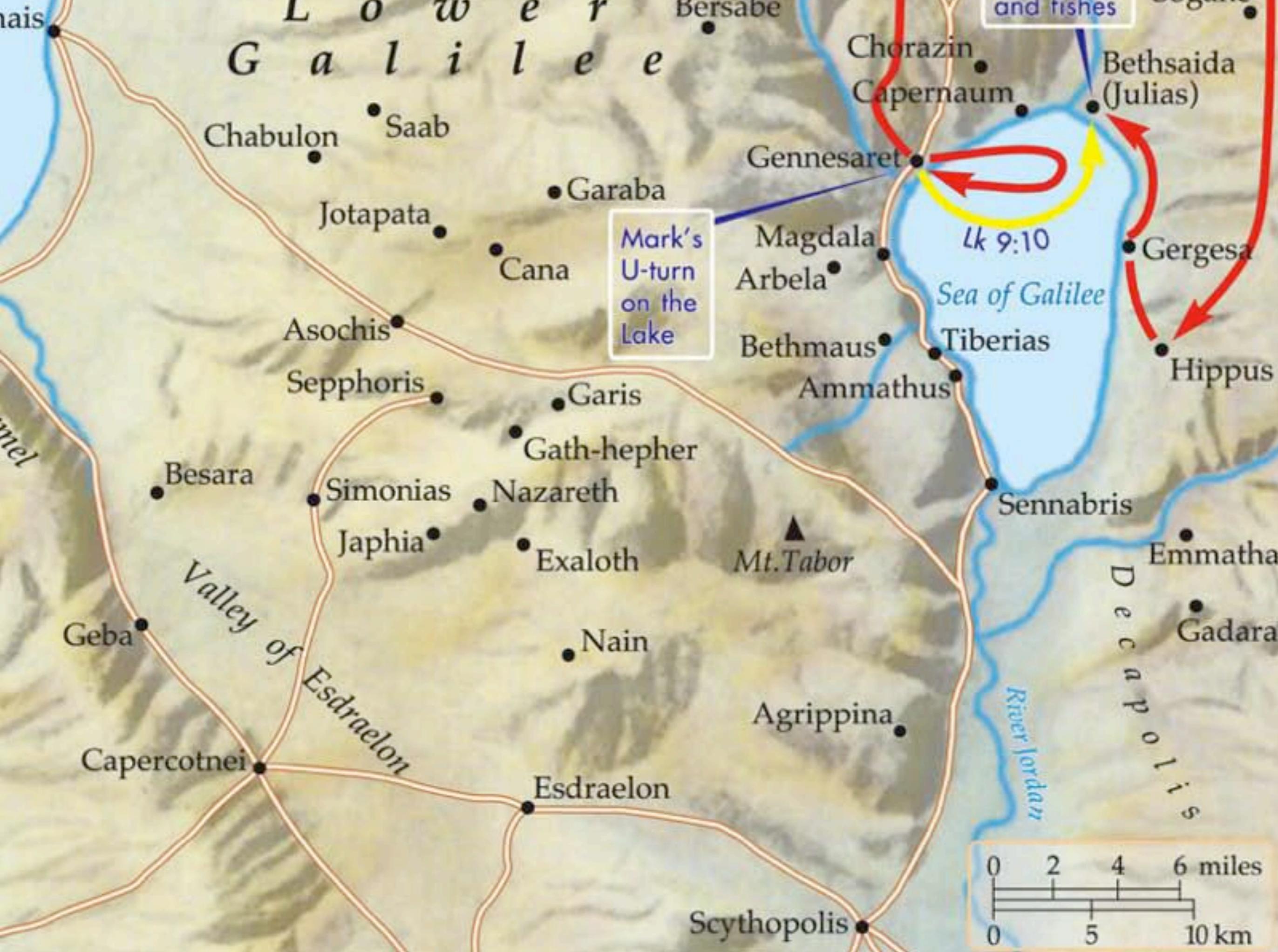
cast out, go out, go in

εἰσέρχομαι + εἰς, *eiserchomai* 2aor act indic 3 sing
to enter *into* 8:30, 8:32, 8:33

ἐξέρχομαι + ἐκ, *exerchomai* 2aor act indic 3 sing
to come out, go out 8:33, 8:35, 38

ἐκβάλλω (ἐκ) *ekballō* 2aor act indic 3 sing
to cast out; send away (Mark 1:34, 39)

Biblical usage emphasizes *going into* and *coming out of* as the defining characteristics of *having a demon* or being *demon-possessed*.



Galilee

Mark's U-turn on the Lake

and fishes

Lk 9:10

Sea of Galilee

Valley of Esdraelon



James 3:14, “But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.

James 3:15, “This wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic.”

John 7:31, “And many of the people believed in Him, and said, ‘When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?’ ”

John 20:30, “And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book;

John 20:31, “but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

Acts 2:22, “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—”

Acts 8:13, “Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.”

2 Cor. 12:12, “Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.”