



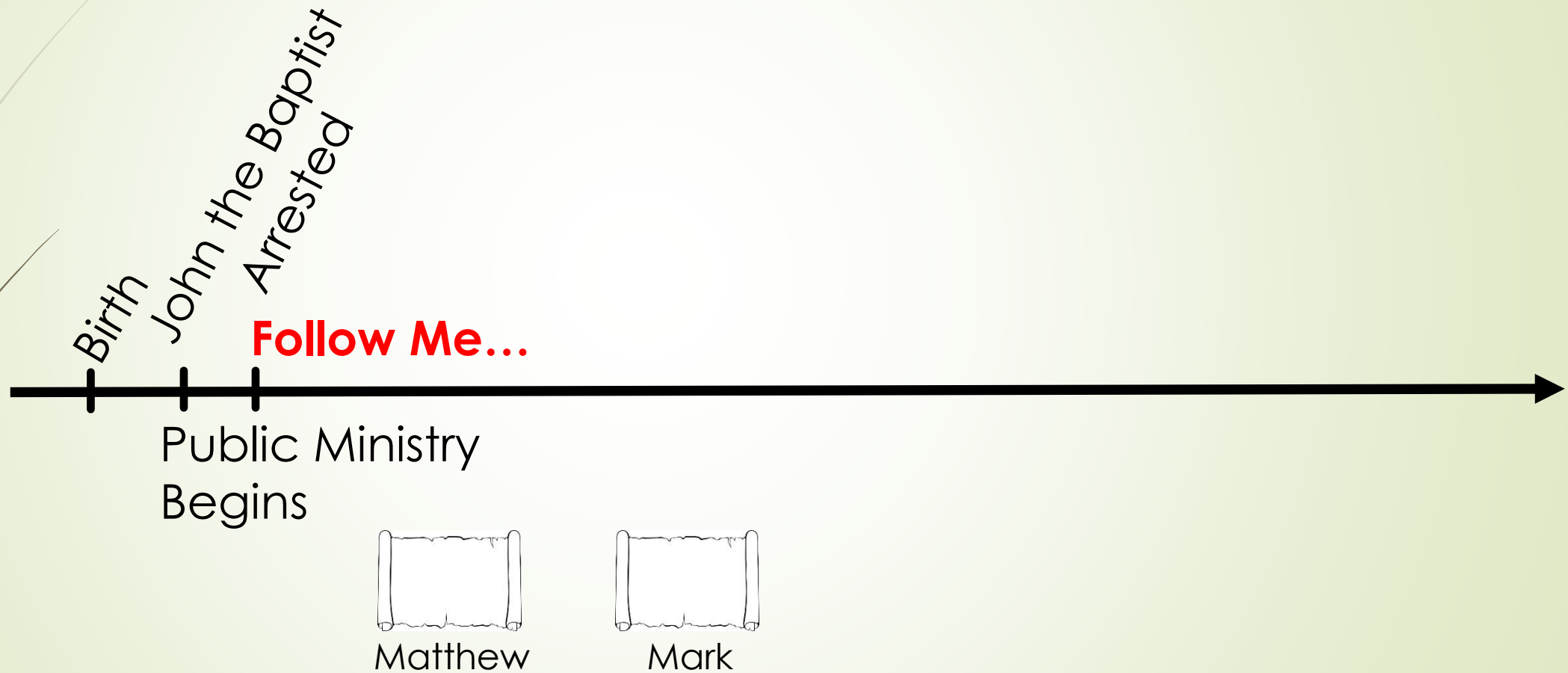
Follow Me –

The Calling of Matthew

Matthew 9:9-13; Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32

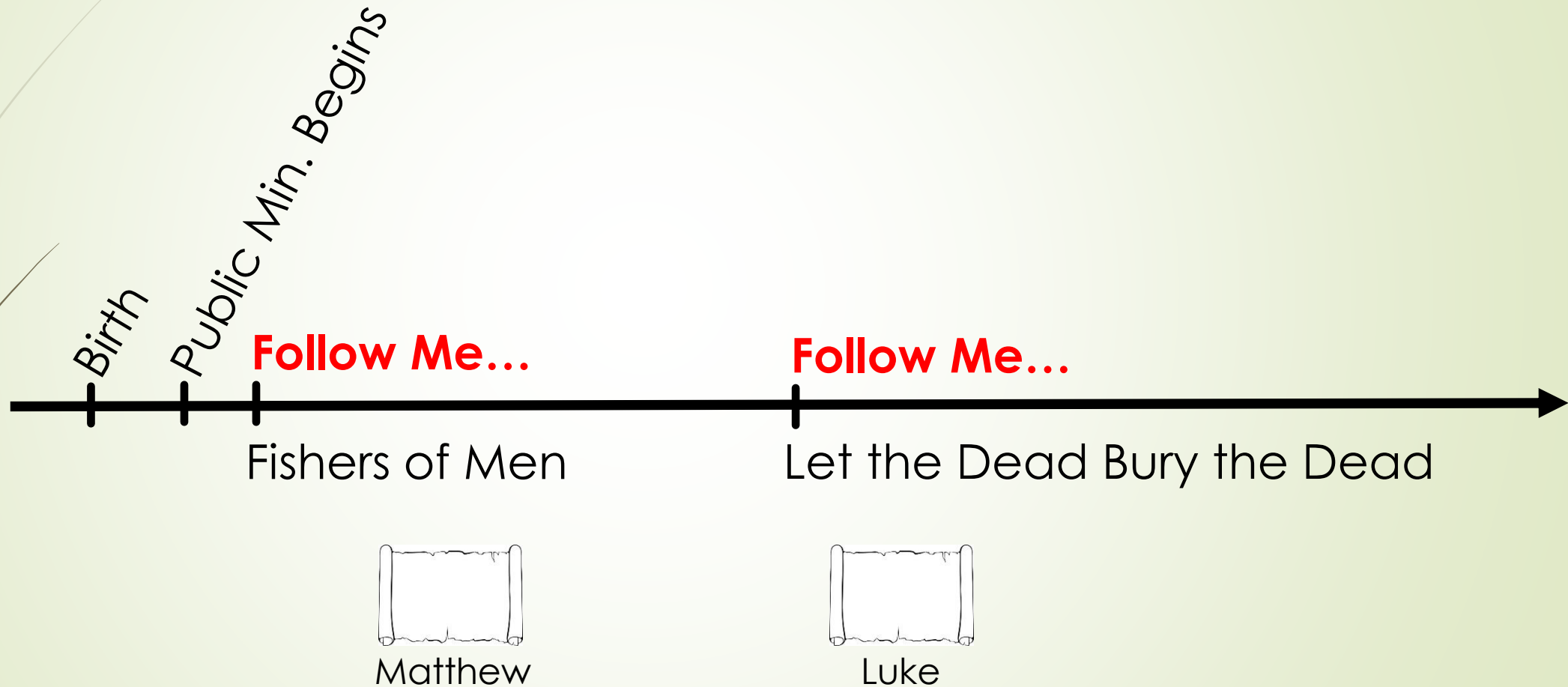
Timeline

Follow Me – I will make you Fishers of Men



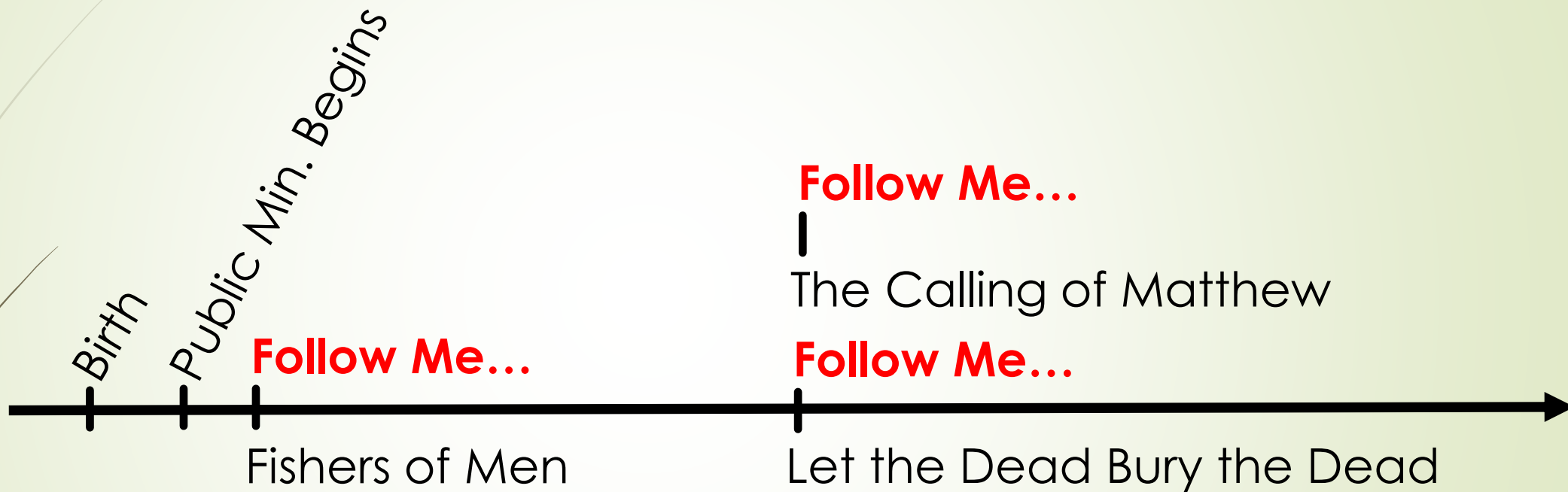
Timeline

Follow Me – Let the Dead Bury the Dead

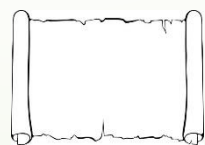


Timeline

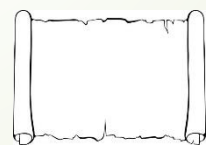
Follow Me – Let the Dead Bury the Dead



Matthew



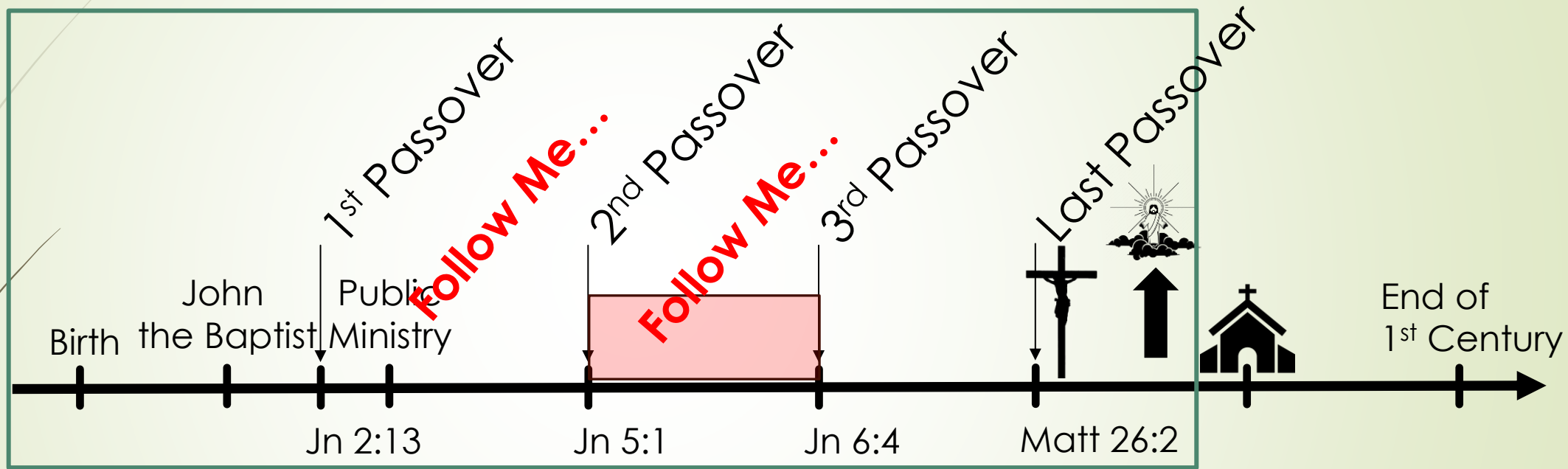
Mark



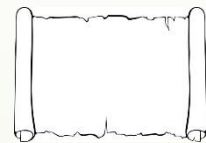
Luke

Timeline

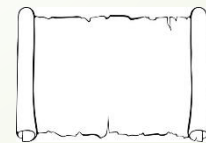
The Public Ministry of Jesus Christ



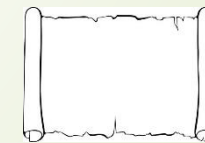
Matthew



Mark



Luke



John



Mark / John

PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES



--- Provincial Frontiers
— Main Roads



Matthew 8:28-34 (NASB)

- 28** And when He came to the other side into the **country of the Gadarenes**, two demon-possessed men confronted Him as they were coming out of the tombs. They were so extremely violent that no one could pass by that way.
- 29** And they cried out, saying, “What business do You have with us, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?”
- 30** Now there was a herd of many pigs feeding at a distance from them.

PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES



--- Provincial Frontiers
— Main Roads



Matthew 8:28-34 (NASB)

- 31** And the demons begged Him, saying, “If You are going to cast us out, send us into the herd of pigs.”
- 32** And He said to them, “Go!” And they came out and went into the pigs; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the waters.
- 33** And the herdsmen ran away, and went to the city and reported everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.
- 34** And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they pleaded with Him to leave their region.

Matthew 9:1-8 (NASB)

- 1** Getting into a boat, Jesus crossed over the Sea of Galilee and came to His own city.
- 2** And they brought to Him a paralyzed man lying on a stretcher. And seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man who was paralyzed, “Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.”
- 3** And some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming!”
- 4** And Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?”

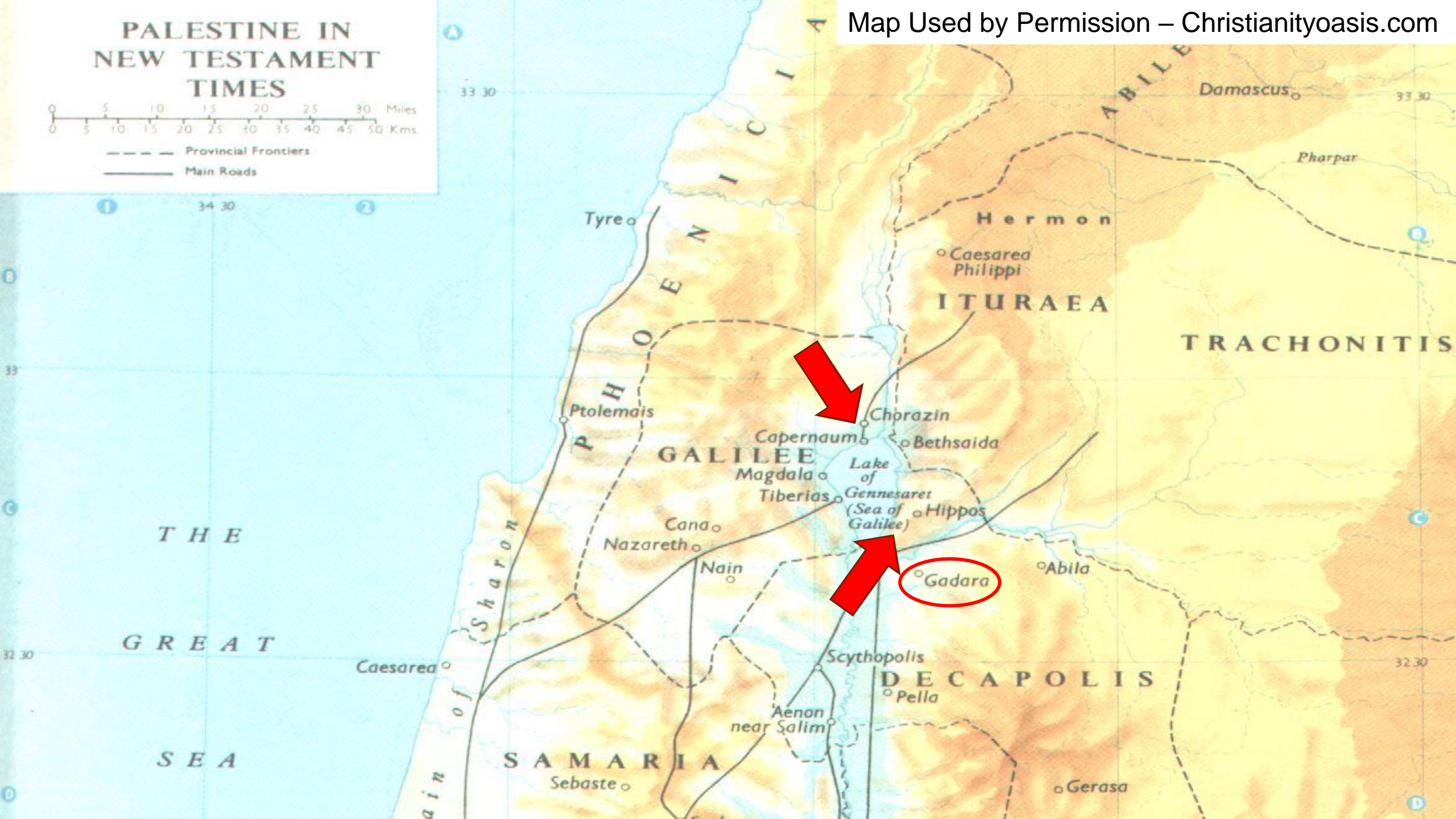
Mark 2:1-11 (NASB)

- 1** When Jesus came back to **Capernaum** a few days later, it was heard that He was at home.
- 2** And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer space, not even near the door; and He was speaking the word to them.
- 3** And some people *came, bringing to Him a man who was paralyzed, carried by four men.
- 4** And when they were unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and after digging an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralyzed man was lying.

PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES



--- Provincial Frontiers
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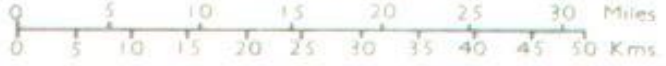
Matthew 9:9-13 (NASB)

- 9** As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting in the **tax collector's office**; and He *said to him, **"Follow Me!"** And he got up and followed Him.
- 10** Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining at the table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and began dining with Jesus and His disciples.
- 11** And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?"
- 12** But when Jesus heard this, He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.
- 13** Now go and learn what this means: 'I desire compassion, rather than sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

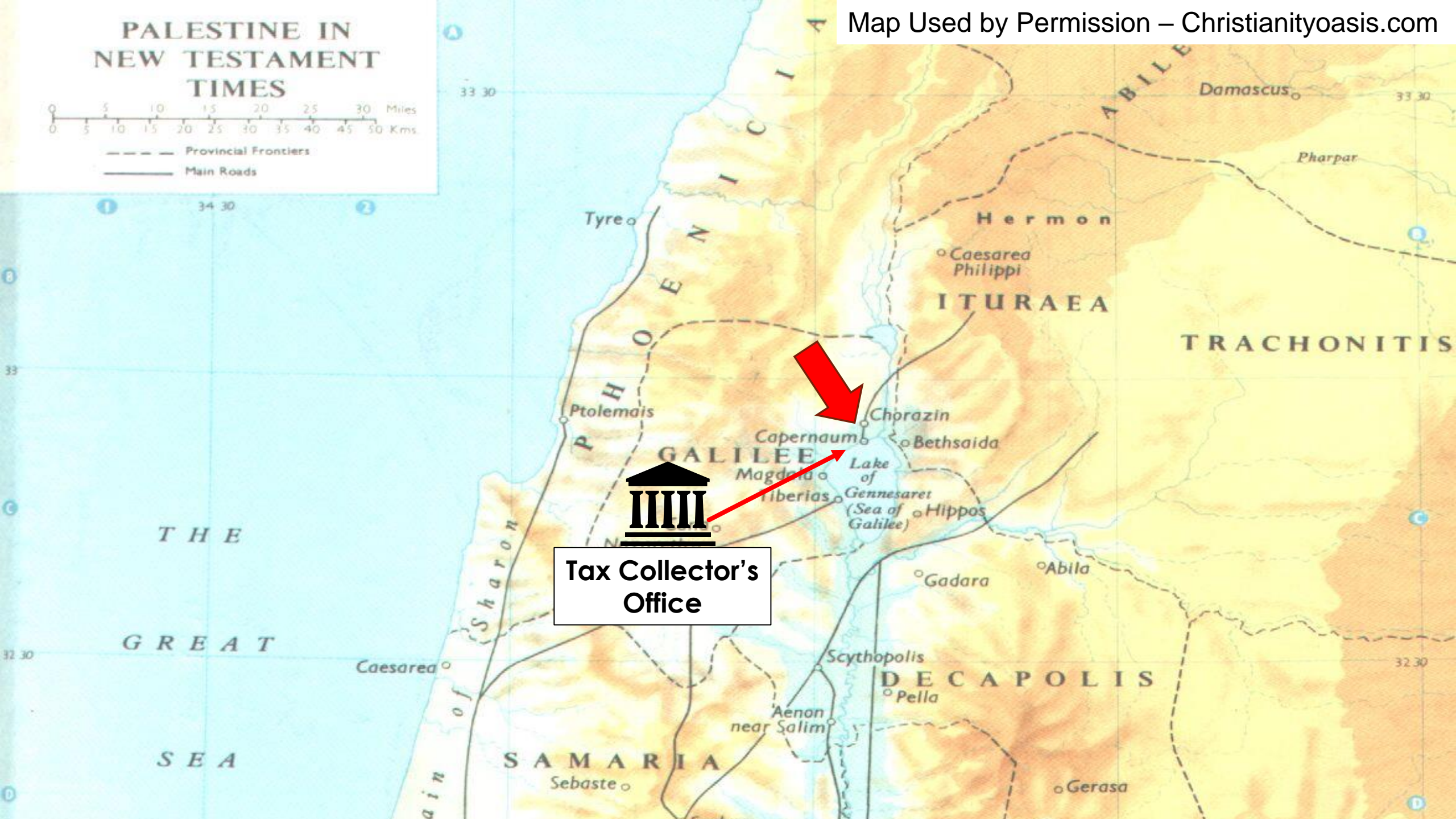
Mark 2:13-17 (NASB)

- 13** And He went out again **by the seashore**; and all the people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them.
- 14** As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax office, and He *said to him, **“Follow Me!”** And he got up and followed Him.
- 15** And it *happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him.

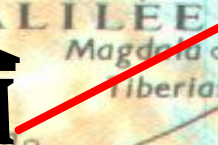
PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES



--- Provincial Frontiers
— Main Roads



Tax Collector's Office



Matthew 9:9-13 (NASB)

- 9 As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting in the tax collector's office; and He *said to him, **"Follow Me!"** And he got up and followed Him.
- 10 Then it happened that as **Jesus was reclining at the table in the house,** behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and began dining with Jesus and His disciples.
- 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?"
- 12 But when Jesus heard this, He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.
- 13 Now go and learn what this means: 'I desire compassion, rather than sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Luke 5:27-32 (NASB)

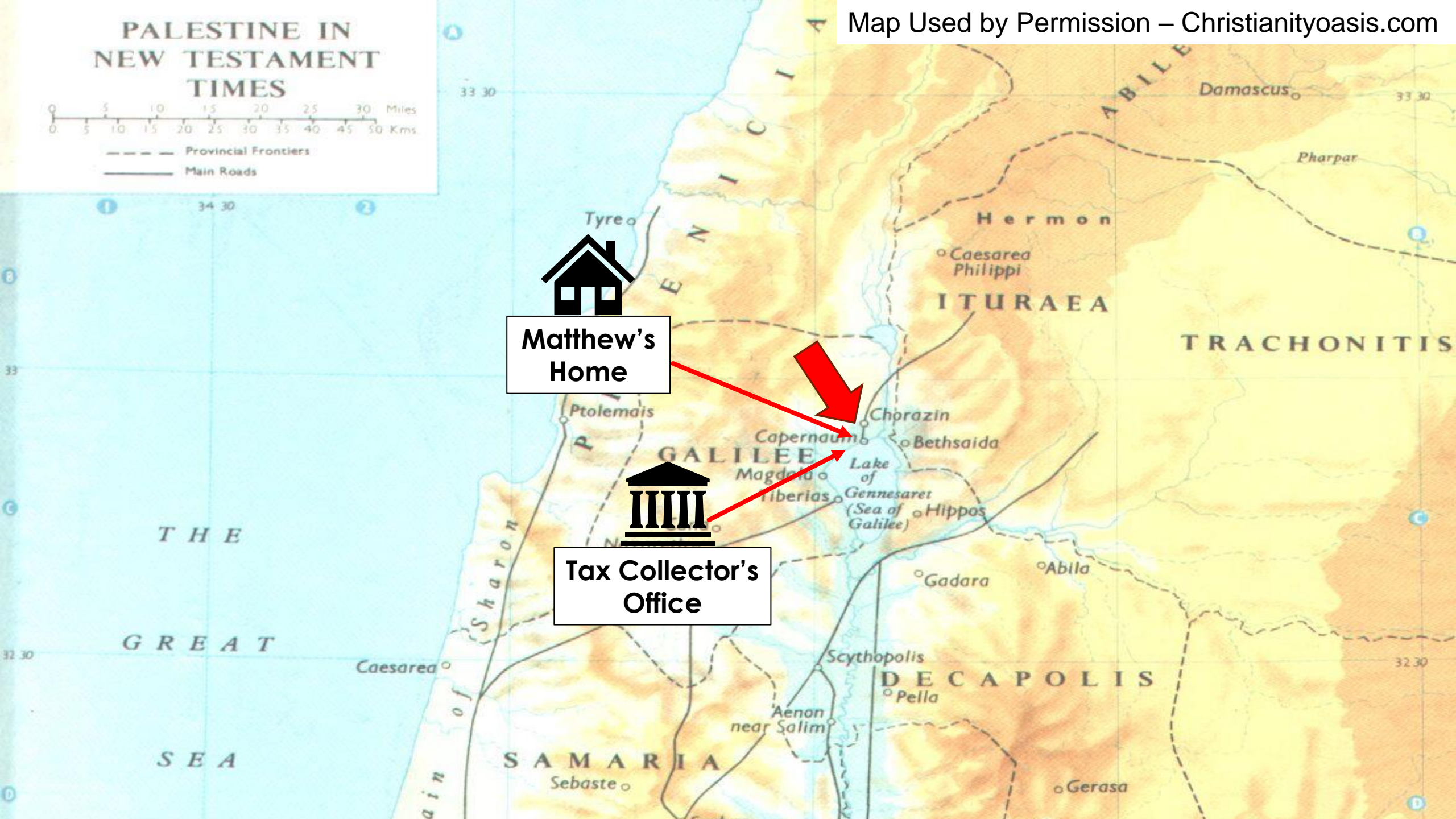
- 27** After that He went out and looked at a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax office, and He said to him, **“Follow Me.”**
- 28** And he left everything behind, and got up and began following Him.
- 29** **And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house;** and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and other people who were reclining at the table with them.
- 30** The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling to His disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?”
- 31** And Jesus answered and said to them, “It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.
- 32** I have not come to call the righteous to repentance, but sinners.”

PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES



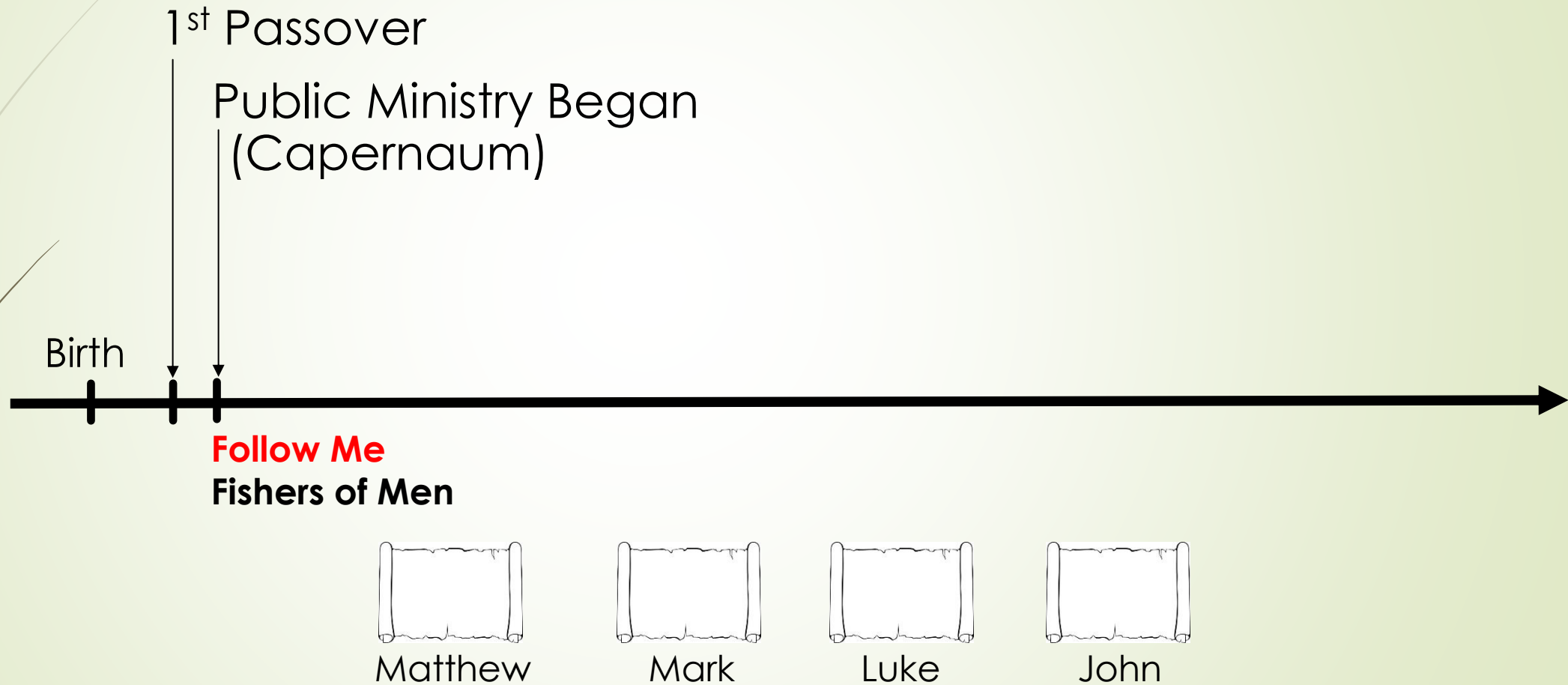

Matthew's Home


Tax Collector's Office



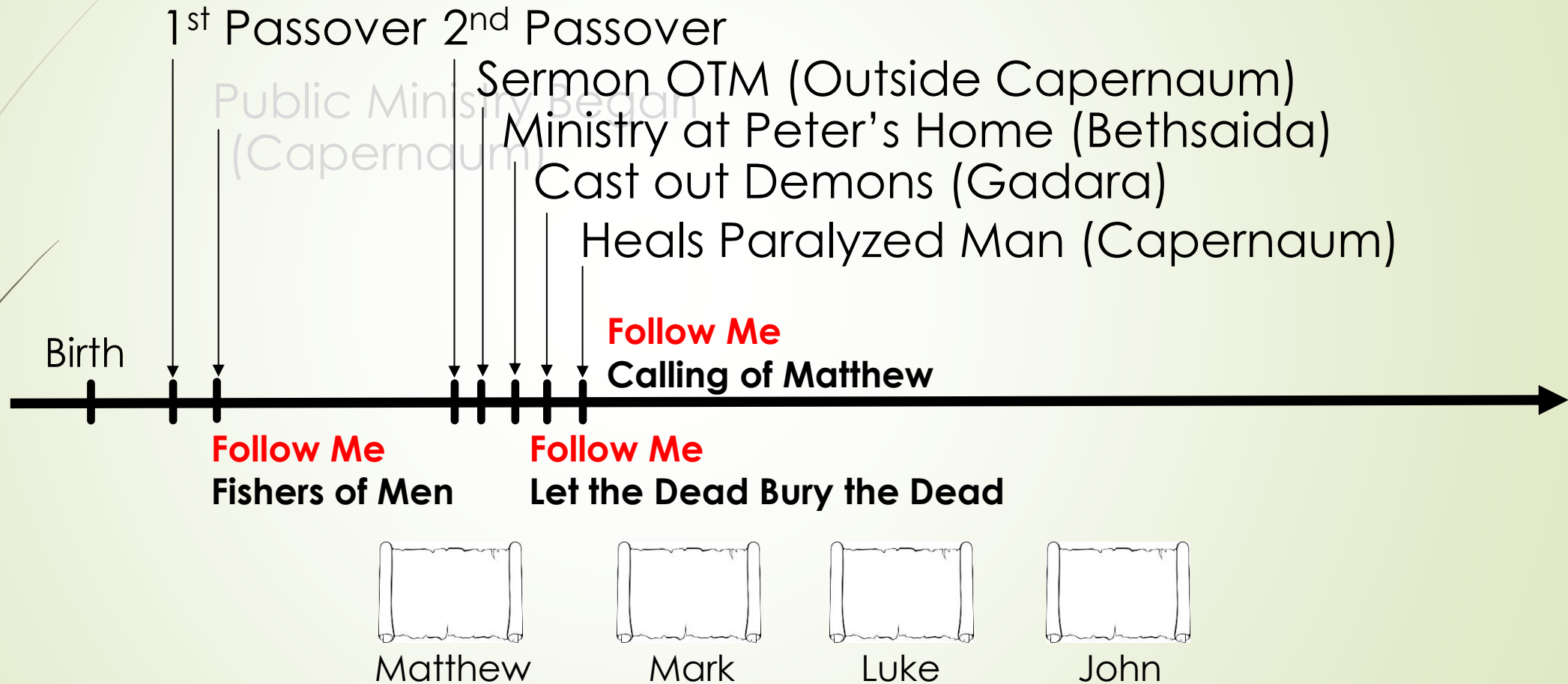
Timeline

Follow Me – Calling of Matthew



Timeline

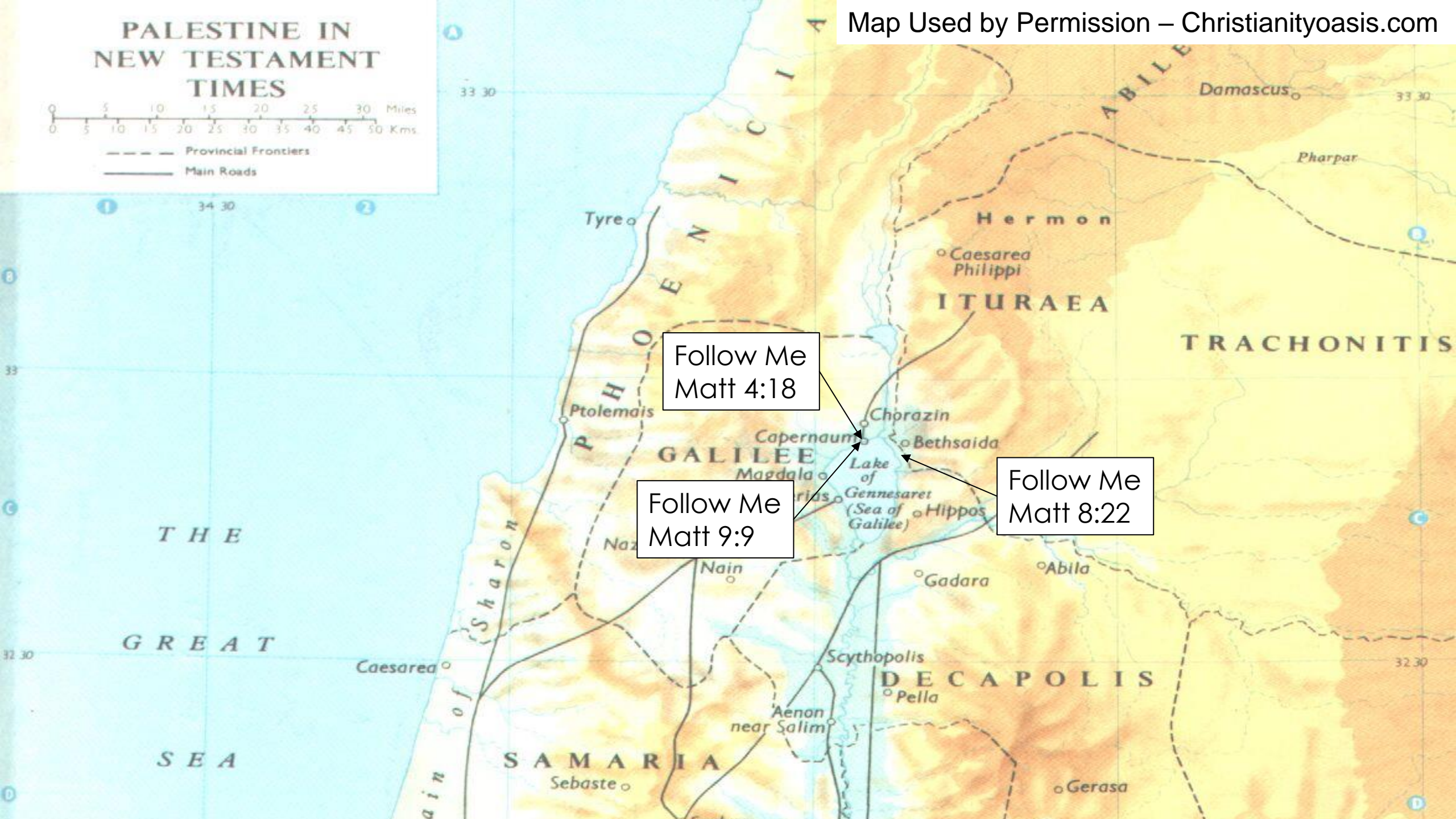
Follow Me – Calling of Matthew



PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES



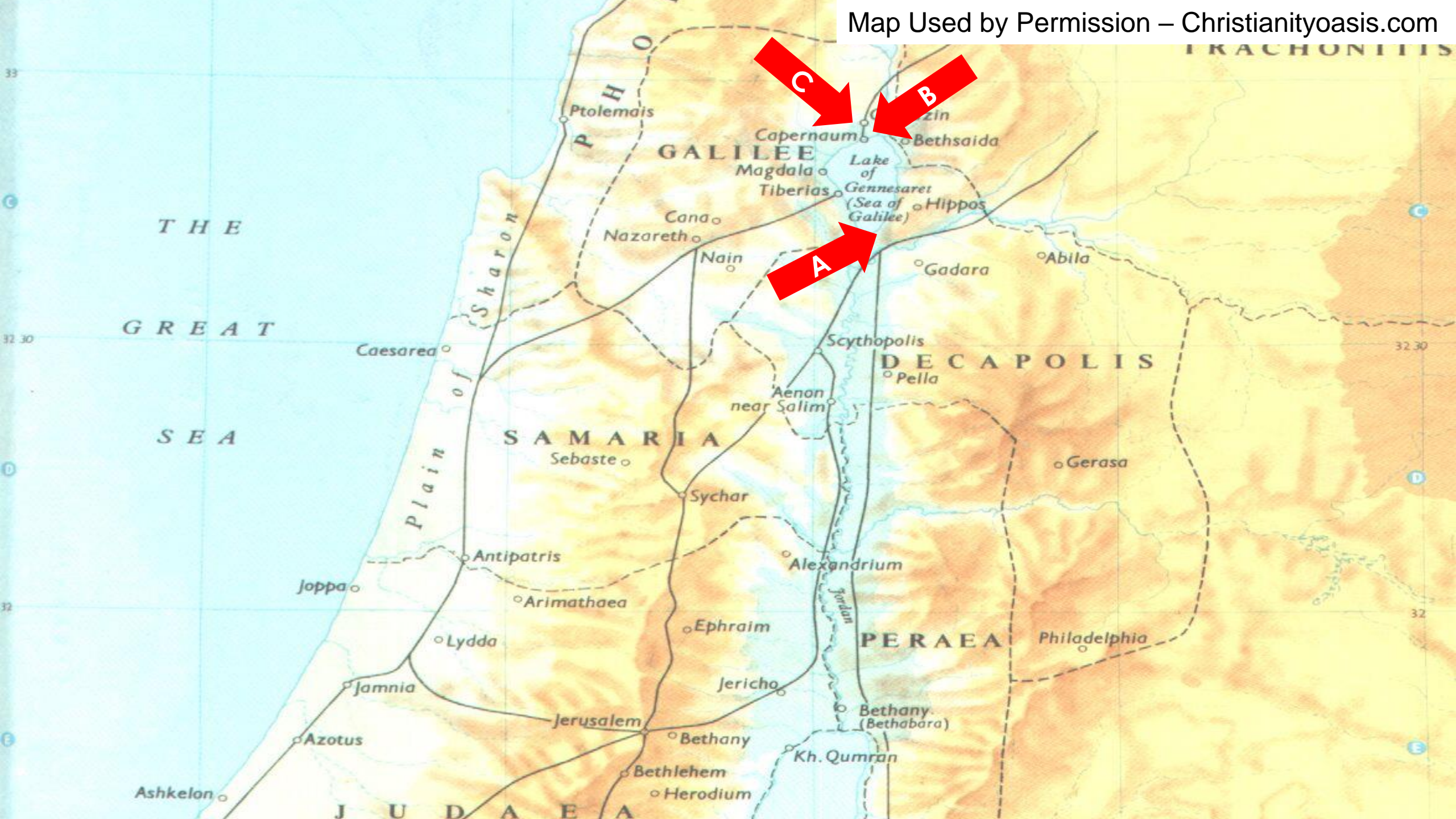
--- Provincial Frontiers
— Main Roads



Follow Me
Matt 4:18

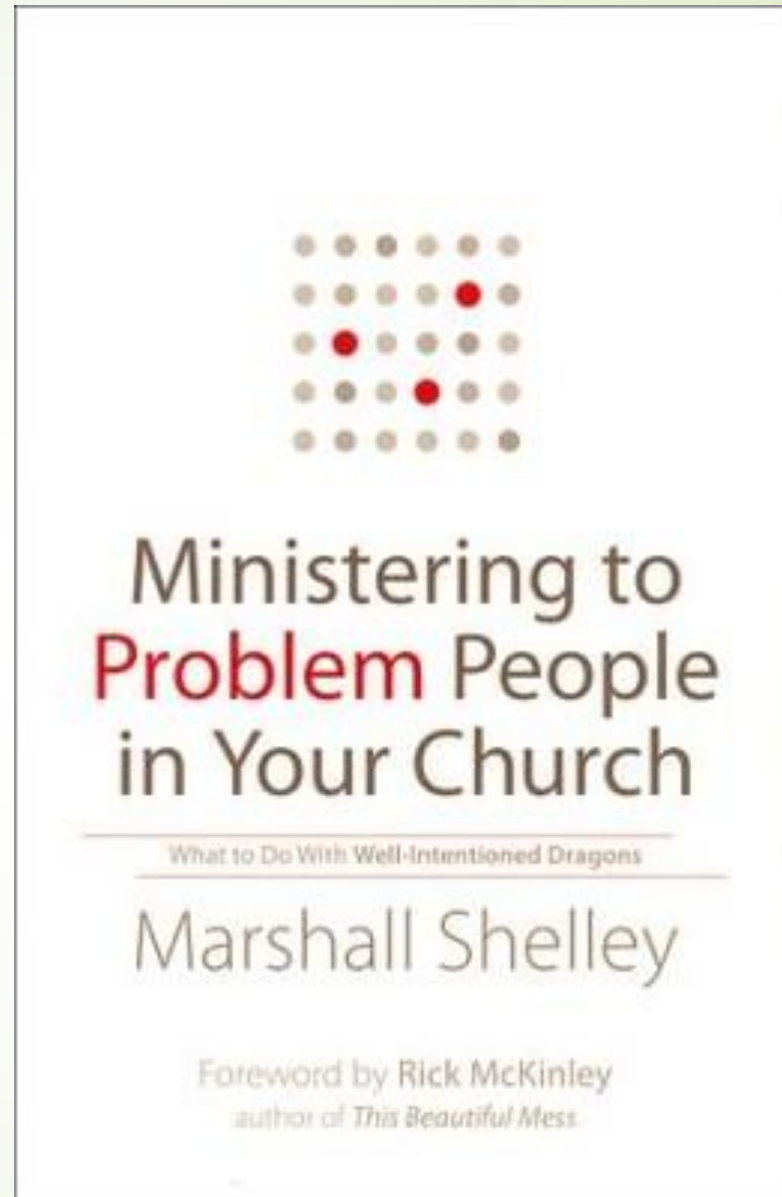
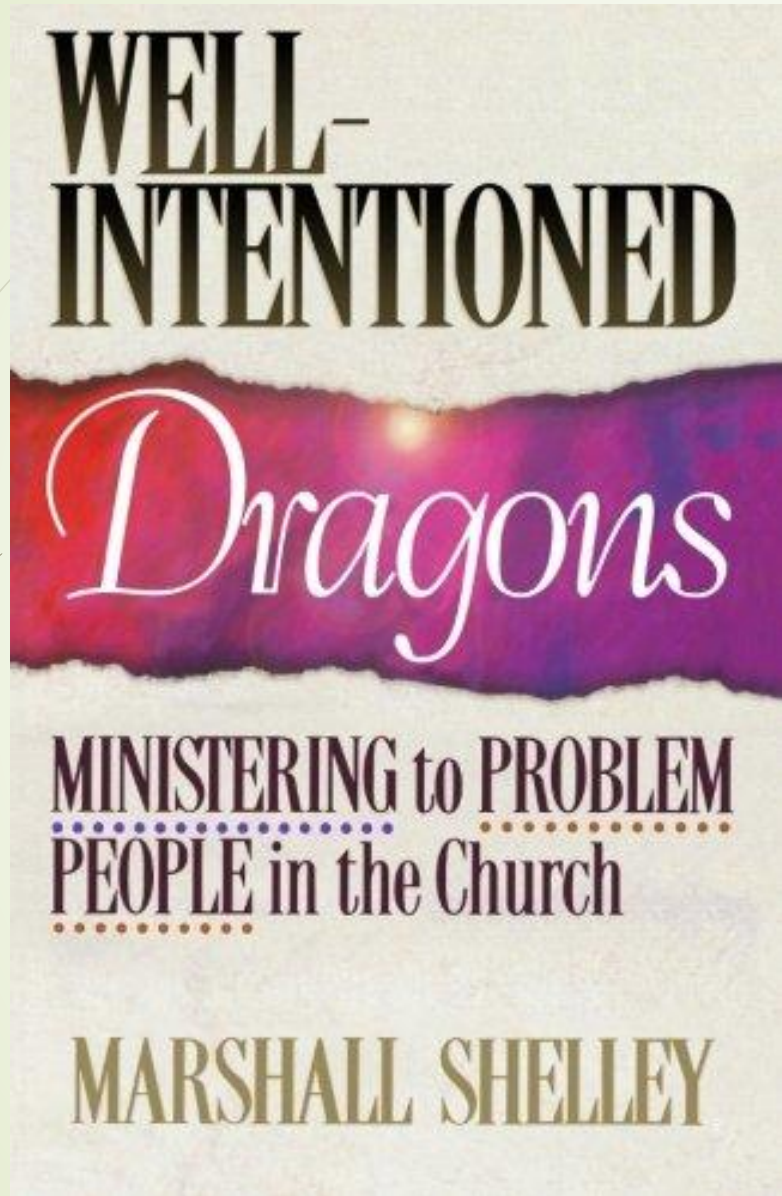
Follow Me
Matt 9:9

Follow Me
Matt 8:22



Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- The Authority Question
- The Protocol Question
- The Spiritual Discipline Question





Ministering to **Problem** People in Your Church

What to Do With Well-Intentioned Dragons

Marshall Shelley

Foreword by Rick McKinley
author of *This Beautiful Mess*

- **The Bird Dog**
- **The Wet Blanket**
- **The Entrepreneur**
- **Captain Bluster**
- **The Fickle Financier**
- **The Busy Body**
- **The Sniper**
- **The Bookkeeper**
- **The Merchant of Muck**
- **The Legalist**

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Matthew 9:1-8 (NASB)

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- 3** And some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming!”
- 4** And Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?”

Mark 2:1-11 (NASB)

- 1** When Jesus came back to Capernaum a few days later, it was heard that He was at home.
- 2** And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer space, not even near the door; and He was speaking the word to them.
- 3** And some people *came, bringing to Him a man who was paralyzed, carried by four men.
- 4** And when they were unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and after digging an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralyzed man was lying.

Mark 2:1-11 (NASB)

- 5** And Jesus, seeing their faith, *said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”
- 6** But some of the scribes were sitting there and thinking it over in their hearts,
- 7** “Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming! **Who can forgive sins except God alone?**”
- 8** Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were thinking that way within themselves, *said to them, **“Why are you thinking about these things in your hearts?”**

Matthew 9:1-8 (NASB)

- 1** Getting into a boat, Jesus crossed over the Sea of Galilee and came to His own city.
- 2** And they brought to Him a paralyzed man lying on a stretcher. And seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man who was paralyzed, “Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.”
- 3** And some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming!”
- 4** And Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?”

Matthew 9:1-8 (NASB)

- 5** For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’?
- 6** But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—then He *said to the paralyzed man, “Get up, pick up your stretcher and go home.”
- 7** And he got up and went home.
- 8** But when the crowds saw this, they were awestruck, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- **The Authority Question**
- **The Protocol Question**
- **The Spiritual Discipline Question**
- **Problem with the Scribes' response:**
 - **They were not there to listen to Jesus, but to check on Jesus**
 - **They were more concerned about what Jesus is doing than about helping people**

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“Sins are forgiven” = “Get up and walk”

Matthew 9:1-8 (NASB)

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Spiritual = Physical

Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- **The Authority Question**
- **The Protocol Question**
- **The Spiritual Discipline Question**
- **Problem with the Scribes' response:**
 - **They were not there to listen to Jesus, but to check on Jesus**
 - **They were more concerned about what Jesus is doing than about helping people**
 - **They don't understand how Jesus' ministry works**



“Follow Me” Principles –

Following Jesus – in doing ministry – puts the focus and emphasis on the spiritual needs before the physical needs of the individual.





“Follow Me” Principles –

You might fall into this category of scribes if...

- You're checking to see if the pastor / leader is teaching or preaching properly rather than to listen to the lesson / preaching**
- You're more concerned about what the pastor / church leader is doing than who they are helping.**
- You don't see bible lessons / prayers / fellowship programs as contributing to a person's physical well-being (only spiritual)**

DISCUSSION!!

Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- The Authority Question
- **The Protocol Question**
- The Spiritual Discipline Question

Matthew 9:9-13 (NASB)

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- 10 Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining at the table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and began dining with Jesus and His disciples.
- 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?"
- 12 But when Jesus heard this, He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.
- 13 Now go and learn what this means: 'I desire compassion, rather than sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Mark 2:13-17 (NASB)

- 13** And He went out again by the seashore; and all the people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them.
- 14** As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax office, and He *said to him, **“Follow Me!”** And he got up and followed Him.
- 15** And it *happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him.

Matthew was known to Jesus!

Matthew 9:9-13 (NASB)

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- 10** Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining at the table in the house, behold, **many tax collectors and sinners came** and began dining with Jesus and His disciples.
- 11** And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, **"Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?"**
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Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- **The Authority Question**
- **The Protocol Question**
- **The Spiritual Discipline Question**
- **Problem with the Pharisees' response:**
 - **They see themselves better than sinners (righteous group)**
 - **They inferred that Jesus must not be righteous, else He would not be with that group**

Matthew 9:9-13 (NASB)


- 9 As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting in the tax collector's office; and He *said to him, **"Follow Me!"** And he got up and followed Him.
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Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- The Authority Question
 - **The Protocol Question**
 - The Spiritual Discipline Question
-
- **Problem with the Pharisees' response:**
 - They see themselves better than sinners ("country club mentality")
 - They inferred that Jesus must not be righteous, else He would not be with that group
 - Don't have a 'help people' mindset (can't 'read the room')



“Follow Me” Principles –



Following Jesus – in doing ministry – puts the focus and emphasis on those who are spiritually lost or spiritually sick before the needs of the spiritually healthy.



“Follow Me” Principles –

You might fall into this category of pharisees if...

- Pursue a certain spiritual status as a goal of Christianity vs pursuit of helping people**
- Tendency to be judgmental about other people’s spiritual walk, especially those who have stumbled.**
- Tendency to be blind to other people’s physical or emotional needs with a ‘everything is about prayer and the bible’ attitude**

DISCUSSION!!

Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- The Authority Question
- The Protocol Question
- **The Spiritual Discipline Question**

Matthew 9:14-17 (NASB)

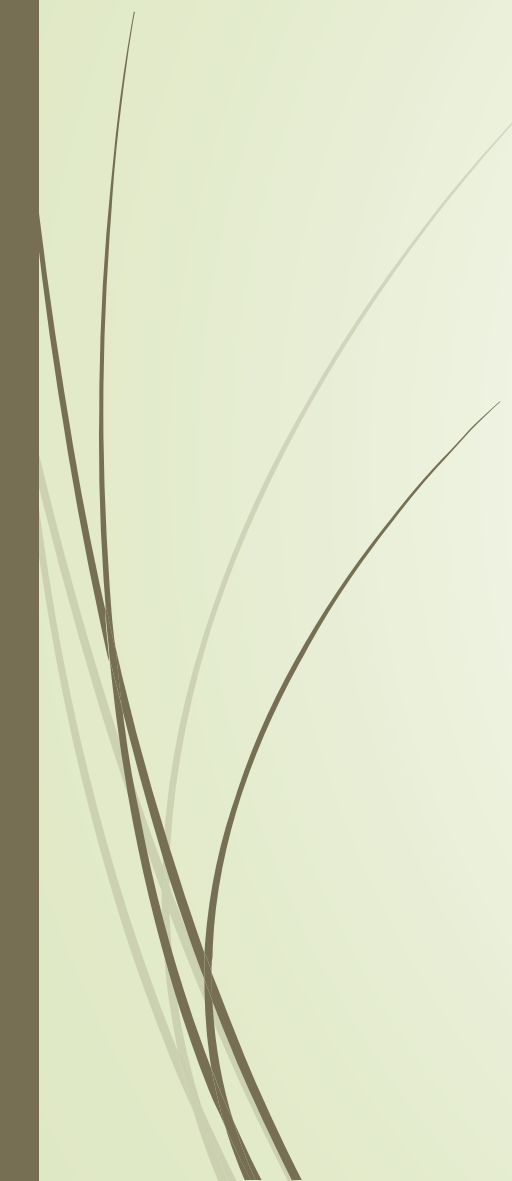
- 14** Then the disciples of John *came to Him, asking, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?”
- 15** And Jesus said to them, “The attendants of the groom cannot mourn as long as the groom is with them, can they? But the days will come when the groom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.
- 16** But no one puts a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results.
- 17** Nor do people put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved.”

Three Responses to Jesus' Ministry

- The Authority Question
 - The Protocol Question
 - **The Spiritual Discipline Question**
- **Problem with John's disciples' response:**
 - **Following Jesus is no different than following existing religious practices**
 - **Strict adherence to religious practices = spirituality**
 - **Spirituality can be a hybrid of multiple religious practices**



“Follow Me” Principles –



Following Jesus – in doing ministry – puts the focus and emphasis on the ministry goals, not the religious rules.



“Follow Me” Principles –

You might fall into this category of disciples if...

- You see Christianity as religious practices**
- Ministry = encourage practice of a set of moral or spiritual disciplines (vs helping people)**
- Tendency to resist changes to ministry practices when ministry realities have evolved.**

DISCUSSION!!



Application Principles



Effective Ministry puts the emphasis on the Spiritual

Dwight L Moody was famously known for his social evangelistic approach where he would go to a poor sinner with the Bible in one hand and a loaf of bread in the other. The idea was to use the loaf of bread to draw them in for Bible lessons. In practice, however, he (allegedly) lamented that many would take the bread and leave without the Bible lessons. Thus, he modified his approach to push the Bible lessons before giving the bread. This story highlights the issue for Christian ministries that lacked the courage to break protocols, often choosing to support the physical needs while diminishing – or eliminating – the spiritual (i.e.. feed the homeless, but afraid to bring out the Bible lessons). Every physical need has a spiritual component that can be ministered to, and effective ministry finds a way to target that spiritual component as the priority, even if the physical need cannot be met. Jesus reminds us in this encounter with the scribes that when we address the spiritual, the physical will take care of itself.



Effective Ministry is defined by extending compassion and empathy

When people join a ministry program because they are experiencing life challenges, a ministry's immediate response ought not be to put them on a prayer list – because that is procedure. The immediate response before all else is compassion and empathy. In other words, “read the room!”

Sometimes, people just need a hug or an ear, or just to be with someone. This is Jesus' point about compassion and sacrifice. The tax collectors and sinners in the room just needed Jesus (or a spiritual leader) to sit with them. Prayers and all other ministry activities can take place behind the scenes, but the visible aspect of a Christian ministry to those in need is compassion and empathy.



Effective Ministry evolves to maintain relevance

Jesus' encounter with the disciples of John teaches us that ministry is not defined by following a set of rules for living. Whatever rules or procedures that were developed in the past may have made sense at some point in the past, but if they no longer make sense in the present, they need to be abolished. Moreover, as our ministry evolves in time, our ministry methodology will need to evolve. As an example, we don't lead a church of 1000 members using the same programs and procedures for 100, and vice versa. A new set of ministry protocols must replace the old ones to adapt to the changing reality. Don't try to hybrid old practices with new realities (new patch on old garment; new wine in old wineskins).



Questions