



## The Gospel of Matthew

### *Gentile Dogs & Satisfying Bread* Matthew 15:21-39

And Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon.

And behold a Canaanite woman came out from that region, and began to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."

But He did not answer her a word. And the disciples came to Him and kept asking Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is shouting after us."

But He answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

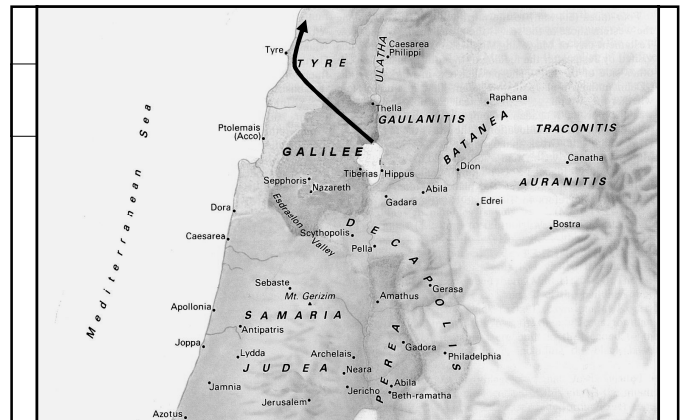
But she came and began to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord help me!"

And He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

But she said, "Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from the master's table."

Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, your faith is great; be it done to you as you wish." And her daughter was healed at once.

Matthew 15:21-28



## Bread for Gentiles

### A. The Canaanite Woman

#### 1. Jesus' Seeming Reluctance

- as the Jewish Messiah, Jesus' mission was first and foremost to the people of Israel
- He tested her faith by making her unworthiness of mercy very apparent



## Bread for Gentiles

### A. The Canaanite Woman

#### 2. The Woman's Great Faith

- it is a desperate, persistent faith directed at Jesus as Lord
- it is a faith filled with a sense of unworthiness that pleads for undeserved mercy

And departing from there, Jesus went along by the Sea of Galilee, and having gone up to the mountain, He was sitting there.

And great multitudes came to Him, bringing with them those who were lame, crippled, blind, dumb, and many others, and laid them down at His feet; and He healed them,

so that the multitude marveled as they saw the dumb speaking, the crippled restored, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.

And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, "I feel compassion for the multitude, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not wish to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way."

And the disciples said to Him, "Where would we get so many loaves in a desolate place to satisfy such a great multitude?"

And Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few small fish."

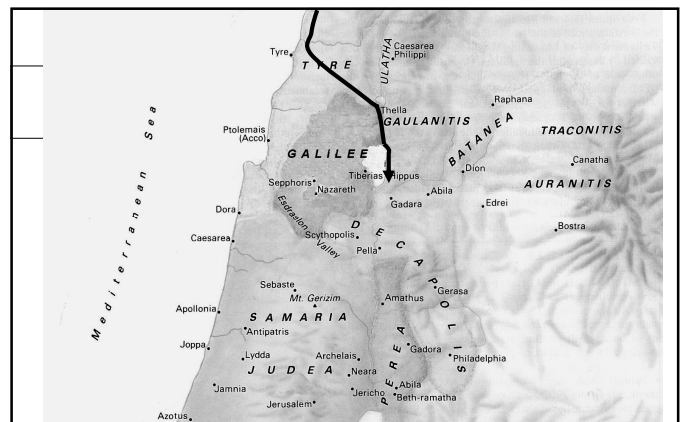
And He directed the multitude to sit down on the ground;

and He took the seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke the bread and started giving them to the disciples, and the disciples in turn, to the multitudes.

And they all ate, and were satisfied, and they picked up what was left over of the broken pieces, seven large baskets full.

And those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children.

Matthew 15:29-38



## Bread for Gentiles

### B. Healing & Feeding the Multitudes

- these events display that the blessing to the Gentiles is beginning to dawn

## Bread for Gentiles

### B. Healing & Feeding the Multitudes

#### 1. Jesus' messianic power

- instant, complete healing of every kind of severe disability (c.f. Isaiah 35:5-6)
- feeding thousands from a few loaves of bread and a few fish – with leftovers!



## Bread for Gentiles

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### B. Healing & Feeding the Multitudes

#### 2. Jesus' compassion for Gentiles

- a foreshadowing of God's mercy poured out upon the Gentiles
- a foretaste of the Messianic banquet – it will include Gentiles



## Bread for Gentiles

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### Application:

1. Marvel at God's mercy toward us Gentiles
2. Believe that Jesus is more than sufficient for every need