

Repent and Believe

Mark 1:14-10

*Is repentance something we must do before we can come to God? Yes and no; repentance does not describe something we must do before we come to God, it describes what coming to God is like. If you are in New York, and I tell you to come to Los Angeles, I don't really need to say "Leave New York and come to Los Angeles." To come to Los Angeles is to leave New York, and if I haven't left New York, I certainly haven't come to Los Angeles. We can't come to the **kingdom of God** unless we leave our sin and the self-life...*

*The kingdom Jesus preached was not just about a moral renewal. It was about trusting God, taking Him at His word, and living a relationship of dependence on Him. The ancient Greek word Jesus used for believe (*pisteuo*) means much more than knowledge or agreement in the mind. It speaks of a relationship of trust and dependence. Guzik*

- I. Jesus said, "**No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day**" (John 6:44)." The Father drew us through the gospel message by making us aware of our need to be saved from the wages of sin. It was a deliberate act of God to open our eyes and heart to see and understand his offer of grace. Consequently, our response was a deliberate act of the heart to acknowledge our sin, repent and believe. Anything short of that is not salvation but belief in a false gospel with dire consequences.

Mark 1:14-15

John 2:12

Luke 5:10

Luke 4:28-30

Matt. 4:12-16

John 6:37-40 ³⁷ *All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.* ³⁸ *For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.* ³⁹ *And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.* ⁴⁰ *For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."*

- II. Jesus message is timeless, it is God's message to mankind that the time has come for man to repent and believe in the good news of the gospel. God's offer of saving grace ends upon death. Jesus gives two requirements that must be met to enter the Kingdom of God. The first requirement, **repentance**, implies a recognition of why salvation is necessary, a willingness to confess sin, and a desire to turn from it. The second requirement, **belief**, goes beyond mere intellectual assent. It implies believing the truth of the gospel with a strong desire to live in a trust relationship with God. Both requirements go hand in hand. The process of sanctification means that the Holy Spirit will teach us what repentance and believe mean for us personally as he walks us through life.

Mark 1:15

Isa. 55:1

John 7:37

Rom. 3:23

Rom. 5:8

Rom. 10:8-12

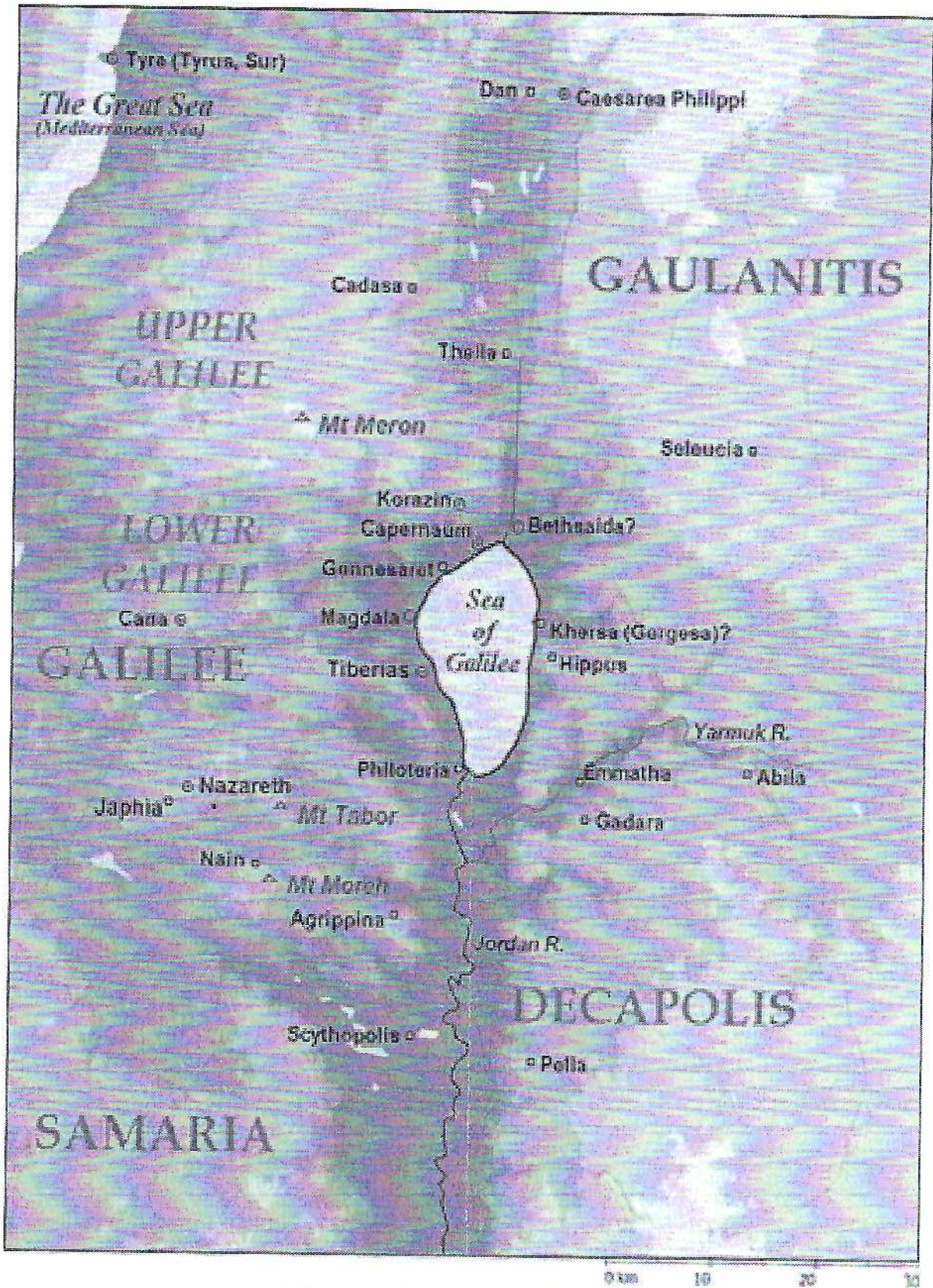
καιρός kairós = a fixed and definite time, the time when things are brought to crisis, the decisive epoch waited for, opportune or seasonable time, the right time, a limited period of time.

πληρώω plērōō = to make full, to fill up, i.e. to fill to the full, to cause to abound, to furnish or supply liberally, I abound, I am liberally supplied, to render full, i.e. to complete, to fill to the top: so that nothing shall be wanting to full measure, fill to the brim

- III. We were all picked to follow Jesus. He is our King, our Leader, our Lord, and our Savior. We are to follow no one but Jesus himself. "A disciple is simply someone who believes in Jesus and seeks to follow him in his or her daily life... It means first of all that we want to learn from him — and we will, as we study God's word, the Bible, and listen to others teach from it... But being a disciple also means we want to put God's word into action by seeking to live the way Christ wants us to live — with God's help." Billy Graham

Mark 1:16-20

Luke 9:23-24 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.



Galilean Ministry of Jesus

