



Dumb and Deaf Man Healed

"He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak" (Mark 7:37).

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After His mission at the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, Jesus decided to travel through the midst of the coasts Decapolis (a network of ten regions) on His way to the sea of Galilee. His motive for this route obviously was to cover more areas and touch more lives for God's kingdom.

"And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, he came unto the sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis. 32 And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him. 33 And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue; 34 And looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened. 35 And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain. 36 And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it; 37 And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak" (Mark 7:31-37).

His trip through the coasts of Decapolis brought Jesus in contact with a deaf and dumb man, whom He healed. We learn from this miracle the following:

- 1) Effectiveness in ministry requires taking the gospel to where the people are. After His ministry at the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, Jesus could have just gone back in a straight and short route, but rather He decided to go through the costs of the Decapolis (vs1). Had he not done that, it is probable that this man would not have had the opportunity of being healed.
- 2) As this man was deaf and dumb (vs 2) he probably would not have heard enough about Jesus to have brought himself to Christ for healing. However, others who knew brought him to Jesus and beseeched Christ on his behalf for a miracle. "Open thy mouth for the

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dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction" (Proverbs 31:8).

- 3) The first step Jesus took was very instructive - "And he took him aside from the multitude" (vs 33). Sometimes, God may chose to take us away from the negative influences of the multitude to enable us concentrate our focus on Him for our miracles.
- 4) Jesus then "put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue" (vs 33) to impart the creative power of God into his life for miracles.
- 5) Then Jesus spoke the word of faith and authority "be opened" for the desired miracle to take place (vs 34). This reminds us of Mark 11:23 "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith".
- 6) Both miracles took place immediately (vs 35) as his ears were opened and the string of his tongue loosed, enabling him to speak plainly. The power of Jesus is still available to lose anything that ties you down or limits the realisation of your potential.
- 7) Jesus did not want the publicity from this miracle to hinder his future ministration, so he charged the people not to publicise it (vs 36). However, the excitement from miracles are so contagious that these people could not keep sealed lips over it.
- 8) Those who witnessed the miracle or heard of it later "were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak" (vs 37).