

# Matthew 19:1-2

<https://thebiblesays.com/commentary/matt/matt-19/matthew-191-2/>

*Jesus leaves Galilee and moves closer to Jerusalem where He will soon be crucified and resurrected. He enters the area known as Judea beyond the Jordan where He heals many among the large crowds that followed Him from Galilee.*

The parallel gospel account of this event is found in Mark 10:1.

After *Jesus finished* teaching His disciples about greatness and mercy in Peter's house in Capernaum, *He left Galilee* for the last time. *Jesus* would not come back to *Galilee* until after His death and resurrection (Matthew 28:10; 28:16-17; John 21:1-18). *He came into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan* in southern Israel. This was not too far from the place where *Jesus* was baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13). This *region* is located east, or *beyond the Jordan* River from the city of Jerusalem. It is directly across *the Jordan* from *Judea* and Samaria and between the Decapolis to its north and the Dead Sea to its south. Click "Maps and Charts" in the Additional Resources section on the right to see a map of the area. Sometimes this *region* is referred to as Perea. More importantly, *Judea beyond the Jordan* is in the vicinity of Jerusalem where *Jesus* will soon be crucified.

Matthew reports that as *Jesus departed Galilee and entered this region that large crowds followed Him there*. Matthew also simply wrote that *Jesus healed them there*. Presumably *Jesus healed* many who were sick, demon-possessed, injured, etc. as *He* had done throughout the rest of His earthly ministry.

Matthew uses these two verses to shift not only the location, but also as a transition away from *Jesus's* ministry in and around *Galilee* as a way to focus upon the climatic events of His life on earth during His first advent that are about to take place in Jerusalem.

## Biblical Text

**19 When Jesus had finished these words, He departed from Galilee and came into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan; <sup>2</sup> and large crowds followed Him, and He healed them there.**