

RUSSELL SANDERS  
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THE MAN OF GALILEE

Jesus is often referred to by numerous identities, one of which is the Man of Galilee. Where is Galilee geographically?

It is a large territorial region about 70 to 100 miles north of Jerusalem. Jesus' hometown of Nazareth was there. Also there, a bit north of Nazareth, was Capernaum which seemed to serve as Jesus' chief base of operations for his ministry.

On the east edge of Galilee was a large body of water that supported the coastal fishing villages. It was called by three names: The Sea of Galilee, Lake Gennesaret, and the Sea of Tiberius (the Roman Emperor). It was from this area that Jesus called His apostles, several of whom were fishermen from the lake.

Galilee had its own culture and Hebrew language accent distinct from Judea and Jerusalem. The region of Samaria lay between Galilee and Judea. It typically would take about three days walk to Jerusalem from Capernaum.

Jews of Jerusalem considered Galileans to be poorly educated and their accent seemed strange to them. This likely contributed to their natural reluctance to accept the message of Jesus and His disciples.

Despite these obstacles, Jesus and the twelve were persistent in preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God.

Are we also being consistent in our stand for the gospel? If we were to be persecuted for it, would we stand strong?

Philippians 4:13 tells us that in Christ's strength, we stand strong, not of our own strength alone.