

Matthew 14:15-21
"Jesus Feeds the 5000"

Deaf Church
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1. Introduction

a. Context: Mt 14:13-14

- huge crowds followed Jesus out of the cities to shoreline at Sea of Galilee
- Jesus was moved (to action) with compassion
- Jesus healed their sick

b. Previous Herod the tetrach killed John the Baptist

- Jesus went to a deserted place by himself - to mourn?
- someone came & told Jesus about John's death

c. Parallel accounts - Mk 6:34-44, Lk 9:11-17, Jn 6:4-13

2. Jesus saw the Multitude (crowd)

a. Late hour

- evening time in deserted area

b. Disciples ask Jesus to send crowd away to closest towns

- crowd didn't bring extra food in their haste to follow Jesus

c. Jesus sets up the disciples to get their attention

- "They don't need to go away."
- "You give them something to eat."
- Disciples only saw hungry people

3. Disciples Saw the Time

a. Disciples at the end of the day

- Disciples tired, crowd tired
- every person has low blood sugar
- everybody hungry

b. Disciples found someone who had dinner for 1 person

- 5 loaves of bread & 2 fish
- 1 meal to last 1 person all day
- bread could have been size of biscuits

4. Jesus Meets Their Needs

- a. Jesus tells His disciples to bring the food
- b. Jesus (as the leader) organized the crowd
 - He told the disciples to direct the crowd in an organized way
 - He did not have them get into a line
 - Disciples were the "go-fers" following Jesus instructions
 - crowd organized in groups of 50 & 100 (MK 6:40)
- c. Jesus took the bread, then the fish
 - * Jesus gave thanks to God
 - * He broke the food to his disciples to give out to the hungry crowd
 - * And there was enough food for everyone

5. Jesus' Miracle at Passover

- a. Jesus performed this miracle during time of Passover (Jn 6:4)
 - * Jesus called Himself Bread of Life (Jn 6:25)
 - * Jesus called Himself Living Bread (Jn 6:51)
 - * Jesus said His words are spirit & life (Jn 6:63)
 - * Passover meal is unleavened bread & red wine/grape juice

- b. Two parts to Jesus miracle
 - 5000 men (not counting women or children) (Mt 14:21)
 - After the feast, 12 disciples filled up 12 giant baskets of left over food (Jn 6:12-13)

6. Conclusion

- a. God gave Israel bread from heaven & water out of a rock (Neh 9:15)
- b. Israel in the wilderness is a symbol for Christians - manna & water because the Rock is Christ (1 Cor 10:3-4)