

JESUS PROVIDES THE STRENGTH WE NEED WHEN WE ARE REJECTED

The death of John the Baptist

Matthew 14:13-21

• To avoid a premature conflict with Herod

14:2 = Herod's reaction to Jesus' ministry.
• yet, the timing between the sending out & the death of John must be close (11:1)

13 Now when Jesus heard **this**, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. **But** when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14** When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and **healed** their sick. **15**

* emphasis on power not instruction

Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." **16** But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." **17** They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." **18** And he said, "Bring them here to me." **19** Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. **20** And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. **21** And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Key to Interpretation:

The miracle is introduced by the Rejection...

- 1) of Nazareth
- 2) of Herod
 - a) death of John
 - b) fear of Jesus

THE SETTING (:13-14)

- A. The Withdrawal
- B. The Following
- C. The Compassion

THE MIRACLE (:15-21)

- A. The Disciples' Inability (:15-17)
 1. Disciples suggest departure
 2. Jesus commands service
 3. Disciples admit inadequacy
- B. The Lord's Ability (:18-21)
 1. The Commands of Jesus
 - a. Bring them to Me
 - b. Order them to Sit
 2. The Prayer of Jesus
 3. The Disciples of Jesus Serve
 4. The Abundant Provision of Jesus
 - a. All ate to satisfaction
 - b. Twelve baskets of left-overs
 - c. The size of the crowd.

THE UNIT IN WHICH THE MIRACLE IS FOUND

The Rise of Rejection (Mt 11-16)

- A - 11:2-12:50 • Stories of Rejection
- B - 13:1-52 • Parables of Rejection
- A' - 13:53-16:20 • Stories of Rejection

Purpose of the Miracle's Placement:

- To prepare the disciples for the rejection they will receive
- The apostles could succeed in spite of opposition because Jesus was with them to provide. (Mt. 14, The Feeding... The Storm... The Healings)

↓
22 - "Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side"

The Allusion to Elisha

(2 Kings 4:42-44)

• Elisha, a rejected prophet in the midst of Israel's decline

- 1) "They shall eat and have some left"
- 2) Accomplished through the agency of his servant
- 3) God uses what we bring to be enough.

The Inclusio of the Book

→ 1:23 - God with Us

→ 28:20 - I am with You

↓
The Feeding proves Jesus' ability to provide for a rejected people because He is with them!

JESUS PROVIDES THE UNDERSTANDING WE NEED FOR OUR IGNORANCE

Mark 6:7-13

Sending out the twelve

Mark 6:30-44

6:12-13
30 The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. 31 And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32 And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. 35 And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. 36 Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." 37 But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" 38 And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." 39 Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. 41 And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied. 43 And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44 And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

* emphasis on instruction

THE SETTING (:30-34)

- The Apostle's Report (:30)
- The Apostle's Rest (:31-32)
- The Crowd's Pursuit (:33)
- The Lord's Compassion (:34)

THE MIRACLE (:35-44)

- The Disciple's Inability (:35-39)
 - Disciple's suggest departure
 - Jesus commands service
 - Disciple's admit Inadequacy
 - In money
 - In food
- The Lord's Ability (:40-44)
 - The Command of Jesus
 - The Prayer of Jesus
 - The Disciple's of Jesus serve
 - All ate to satisfaction
 - Twelve baskets of left-overs
 - The size of the crowd

THE UNIT IN WHICH THE MIRACLES FOUND

The Misunderstanding of the 12

Mark 6:7 - Sending Out the 12

(picking up the mantle of John)

→ 6:52 - "They had not understood"

→ 7:18 - "are you without understanding"

→ 8:17-21 - "do you not yet understand"

Mark 8:21 - Before the Blind man inclusion of 8:22-10:52

Purpose of the Miracle's Placement

By showing the blindness of the twelve the reader is invited to see what they missed.

↓ v45 - "Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat."

↓ v52 - "For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened."

JESUS PROVIDES THE PROVISIONS WE

NEED TO FOLLOW HIM

Luke 9:1-6
Sending out the twelve

Luke 9:10-17

¹⁰ On their return the apostles told him all that they had done. ¹¹ And he took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida. ¹² When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing. ¹³ Now the day began to wear away, and the twelve came and said to him, "Send the crowd away to go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find lodging and get provisions, for we are here in a desolate place." ¹⁴ But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people." ¹⁵ And he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." ¹⁶ And they did so, and had them all sit down. ¹⁷ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. ¹⁸ And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces. (crowd ref. v.14)

* house of fish

* the place of the 5000 diff. from Mt. & Mk for a diff purpose

THE SETTING (:10-11)

- A. The Apostle's Report
- B. The Withdrawal
- C. The Following
- D. The Welcoming
 - 1. Spoke of the kingdom
 - 2. Healed those who were sick

THE MIRACLE (:12-17)

- A. The Apostle's Inability (:12-14^a)
 - 1. Apostle's suggest departure
 - 2. Jesus commands service
 - 3. Apostle's admit Inadequacy
 - a. Scarcity of Provisions
 - b. Size of the Need
- B. The Lord's Ability (:14^b-17)
 - 1. The Command of Jesus
 - 2. The Prayer of Jesus
 - 3. The Service of the Apostle's
 - 4. The Abundant Provision of Jesus
 - a. All ate to satisfaction
 - b. Twelve baskets of left-overs

THE UNIT IN WHICH THE MIRACLE IS FOUND

The Mission of the New Israel

→ Luke 8:1 → every city preaching and healing

9:1,11 → sent preaching & healing

→ Luke 9:51 → Jesus set His face toward Jerusalem

Character / Nature of Christ { (9:21-22; 9:43-45 - Predict death)
(9:18-20; Peter's Confession)
(9:28-36; Transfiguration)

Commitment of followers { (9:23-27; Take up your cross)
(9:37-42; Inability to heal boy)
(9:57-62; Cost of discipleship)

Key Phrase In Immediate Context

Luke 9:9 - "Who is this?"

Answer: 1) All-powerful Lord
2) Humble Sufferer

The Purpose of the Miracle's Placement

The apostle's mission was Jesus' mission

Specifics = Preaching & Healing
Method = Take up the Cross
Confidence = Jesus' provision & power

JESUS PROVIDES THE LIFE MY BARREN LIFE NEEDS

In 5 - healing at the feast of the rejection/persecution of the Jews

John 6:1-15

¹ After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ² And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. ³ Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴

⁵ Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.

Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. ⁷

Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little." ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹ "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" ¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." ¹¹ Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. ¹² Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹³ And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." ¹⁴ So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. ¹⁵ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

¹⁵ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

In 6:16-ff The Bread of Life Discourse and the departure of the crowd.

THE SETTING (:1-4)

- A. Jesus Returns to Galilee
- B. The Crowds Follow (Because of the signs)
- C. Jesus Sat with the Disciples
- D. The Passover was near

THE MIRACLE (:5-15)

- A. The Lord's Test (:5-6)
- B. The Apostle's Inability (:7-9)
 1. Philip's lack of money
 2. Andrew's lack of provisions
- C. The Lord's Ability (:10-13)
 1. The Lord's Command
 2. The Size of the Problem
 3. The Prayer & Service of Jesus
 4. The Abundant Provision of Jesus
 - a. They ate their fill
 - b. Gathered up left-overs
- D. Reaction to the Miracle (:14-15)
 1. The People proclaim Jesus to be The Prophet
 2. The People try to make Jesus king, by force
 3. Jesus withdrew (inclusion w/v.1)

THE UNIT IN WHICH THE MIRACLE IS FOUND

JESUS LEADS A NEW EXODUS!

John 6 - Miracle of Feeding

- 1) 6:22-ff Jesus & Manna
- 2) 7:2-ff Jesus & Living Water (:37-38)
- 3) 8:2-ff Jesus & Light

John 9 - Miracle of Seeing

- Jesus fulfills the manna, water from the rock, and pillar of fire motifs of the Exodus
- This connection is deepened by the Feast Jesus attends.

Purpose of the Miracle's Placement

To show only Jesus has the power to provide life in a barren world (Exodus image; also In 20:30-31)