

John 6:1-27

1-7. After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberius. Then **a great multitude followed Him**, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. And Jesus went up on a mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and **seeing a GREAT MULTITUDE coming toward Him**, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" But this **He said to test him, for He himself knew what He would do**. Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."

- **Mark 6:34-44** "And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great _____ and was _____ with _____ for them, because they were like _____ not having a _____. So He began to _____ them many things." (Verse 37) "But He answered and said to them, 'You give them _____ to _____.' And they said to Him, 'Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of _____ and give them something to eat?'"

Definition: "But this He said to TEST HIM" - What is Jesus trying to do with Philip? He is TESTING HIS FAITH. At first, Philip seems to have the faith to believe Jesus can do something to feed all these people, when he says "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish," but he STOPS THERE, and immediately says, "But **what are they among so many?**" How often do WE believe the Lord just UP TO a CERTAIN POINT and then fall back into unbelief?

- **I Peter 1:7** "That the genuineness of your _____, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is _____ by fire, may be found to _____, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ."
- **James 1:2-4** "My brethren, count it all _____ when you fall into various _____, knowing that the _____ of your _____ produces _____. But let _____ have its perfect work, that you may be _____ and _____, lacking nothing."

8-9. One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but **what are they among so many?**"

- **Mark 6:34-44** (Verse 38) "But He said to them, 'How many _____ do you have? Go and see.' And when they found out they said, '_____, and two _____.'"

10-11. Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number **about five thousand**. And Jesus took the loaves, and **when He had GIVEN THANKS** He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted.

- **Luke 9:16-17** "Then He took the five _____ and the two _____, and looking up to _____, He _____ and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude."
- **I Timothy 4:3-5** "...foods which God created to be _____ with _____ by those who _____ and know the truth. For every creature (creation) of God is _____, and nothing is to be refused if it is _____ with _____; for it is sanctified by the word of God and _____."

- **Philippians 4:6-7** "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by _____ and supplication, with _____, let your requests be made known unto God."

Definition: "He DISTRIBUTED THEM - as MUCH as they WANTED" - This is another MIRACLE OF CREATION similar to the water being turned into wine, but even greater because Jesus created MORE out of what little there was there. This manifested (showed, demonstrated) Jesus' power as the Creator. Bread is made from flour, which is made from grain, which grows out of the ground, and needs water and sun (and time) to grow. Jesus didn't need to go through these steps, but CREATED the bread DIRECTLY. He also created more FISH, already COOKED, without the usual process. God had done a few miracles like this in the Old Testament, in a much smaller fashion, through the prophets Elijah and Elisha.

- **Read I Kings 17:8-16** (Verse 12) "But she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I have no _____, only a _____ of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks [for firewood] that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die (starve to death).'" (Verses 15-16) "So she went and did according to the word of Elijah, and she and he and her household _____ for many days. The bowl of _____ was not exhausted (did not run out) nor did the jar of oil become _____, according to the _____ of the _____ which He spoke through Elijah."
- **II Kings 4:42-44** "Now a man came from Baal-shalishah, and brought the man of God bread of the first fruits, _____ loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. And he said, 'Give them to the people that they may _____.' And his attendant said, 'What, shall I set this before a _____ men?' But he said, 'Give them to the people that they may eat, for thus _____ the _____, 'They shall _____ and have some _____.' So he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the _____ of the Lord."

12-13. So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "**Gather up the fragments that remain, so that NOTHING IS LOST.**" Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were LEFT OVER by those who had eaten.

- **Read II Corinthians 9:6-12** (Verses 8-10) "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, _____ having all sufficiency (plenty, enough for your needs) in _____ things, have an _____ for every good work. As it is written: 'He has dispersed abroad, He has _____ to the _____; His righteousness remains forever.' Now He who supplies seed to the sower, and _____ for _____, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness."

Definition: "GATHER UP the FRAGMENTS that REMAIN" - This became a lesson in FAITH to the disciples. They could see that Jesus was able to provide for all their needs, and even **to have an ABUNDANCE left over**. How often DO WE doubt the Lord's ability or willingness to PROVIDE for OUR NEEDS?

Definition: "That NOTHING IS LOST" - Is Jesus just being concerned here about wastefulness of food, or is He trying **to give a SPIRITUAL lesson** as well? Just as with Nicodemus and the woman at the well, Jesus moves from the PHYSICAL to the SPIRITUAL. He uses this incident as **a PICTURE of His gathering people into His kingdom**. God is in COMPLETE CONTROL, and NOT ONE SOUL who comes to Jesus will be LOST for eternity (see also John 10:27-29).

- **John 6:39** "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of _____ He has _____ Me I should _____ nothing, but should raise it up at the last day."
- **John 17:12** "While I was with them in the world, I _____ them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have _____; and _____ of them is _____ except the son of perdition (Judas), that the Scripture might be fulfilled."
- **John 18:9** "That the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, 'Of those whom You gave Me I have _____.'"

14-15. Then those men, when **they had seen the SIGN that Jesus did**, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world." Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to a mountain by Himself alone.

- **John 2:11** "This beginning of _____ Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and _____ His _____; and His disciples _____ in Him."

Definition: "TAKE Him by FORCE to MAKE Him KING" - The crowds of people who followed Jesus were looking for a Messiah or king who would free them from Roman oppression, but **a king who would also FEED THEM miraculously** was TOO GOOD to pass up! John the Baptist had already pointed out **Jesus as the sacrificial LAMB of God**, and Jesus' ONLY purpose in coming to earth at this time was to go to the CROSS. **He WILL come again** to set up His KINGDOM on EARTH in the future, but for the people to FORCE it to happen at this time was NOT God's will.

16-21. And when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now dark, and Jesus had not come to them. Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw **Jesus WALKING on the SEA** and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. But He said to them, "It is I; **do NOT be AFRAID.**" Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

- **Read Matthew 14:22-33** (Verse 25) "Now in the fourth watch of the _____ went to them, _____ on the _____." (Verses 28-31) "And Peter answered Him and said, 'Lord, if it is You, _____ me to _____ to You on the _____.' So He said, 'Come.' And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he _____ on the _____ to go to Jesus.' But when he _____ that the wind was boisterous, he was _____; and beginning to _____ he cried out saying, 'Lord, _____ me!' And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little _____, why did you _____?'"

Definition: "Jesus WALKING on the SEA" - John leaves out some of the details of this miracle, but Matthew records the part about Peter getting out of the boat and walking on water for a few steps to Jesus. John is not concerned here about what the disciples said or did, but only about Jesus. John's purpose in writing this "gospel" is **to SHOW JESUS AS GOD IN THE FLESH.**

Definition: "O you of LITTLE FAITH, why did you DOUBT?" - Peter asked Jesus to "command" him to come to Him on the water, and when **Peter OBEYED Jesus' command**, and **BELIEVED Jesus could give him the power** to do it, he WALKED ON WATER! However, after only A FEW STEPS, Peter TOOK HIS EYES OFF JESUS and looked at the storm around him. As soon as Peter **looked at the CIRCUMSTANCES around him**, he began to sink. There is a lesson here for us: **KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS**, and DO NOT focus on your circumstances or surroundings in the natural

realm, and **He will give you the power to WALK ABOVE your CIRCUMSTANCES**, whatever they may be.

- **II Corinthians 5:7** "For we _____ by _____, not by _____."
- **Hebrews 12:2** "_____ unto _____, the author and finisher of our _____, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

22-24. On the following day, when the people who were standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, except that one which His disciples had entered, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with His disciples, but His disciples had gone away alone - however, other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where **they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks** - when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they also got into boats and came to Capernaum, **SEEKING JESUS**.

- **Romans 3:10-11** "As it is written: 'There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands, there is _____ who _____ after _____.'"

Definition: "SEEKING JESUS" - Many people seem to be searching for "meaning in life" or seeking God in some way, but according to God, there is NO ONE who is seeking Him with pure motives. Just as these crowds were seeking Jesus because they were fed, NONE of us seeks Him with purely UNSELFISH motives. This is just one more reason WHY we cannot EARN our own salvation, because our MOTIVES are CORRUPTED by SELFISHNESS.

- **Jeremiah 17:9** "The _____ is _____ above all things, and desperately _____; who can know it?"
- **Ephesians 2:8-9** "For by grace you have been saved through _____, and that _____ of _____, it is the gift of God: _____ of _____, lest anyone should boast."

25-27. And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You come here?" Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **you SEEK ME, not because you saw the SIGNS**, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do NOT labor for the food which perishes, but for **the food which endures to EVERLASTING LIFE**, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."

- **Isaiah 55:2-3** "Why do you spend money for what is not _____, and your wages for what does not _____? Listen carefully to Me, and _____ what is _____, and delight yourself in abundance. Incline your ear and come to _____. Listen that you may _____; and I will make an _____ covenant with you, according to the faithful mercies shown to David."
- **John 6:51** "I am the _____ which came down from heaven. If anyone _____ of this _____, he will live _____; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the _____ of the world."
- **Matthew 16:26** "For what is man profited if he _____ the whole world, and _____ his own _____? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Definition: "You SEEK ME, NOT because you saw the SIGNS" - Jesus did SIGNS (miracles) such as the feeding of the five thousand in order to show that He was God. Instead of the people recognizing Him as God and worshiping Him, they just wanted the FREE FOOD!