

Jesus Feeds the 5000

Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:34-43

Once Jesus went out into the wilderness for a lonely time with God. People who heard that Jesus was out there in the wilderness went to meet him in large numbers from all the towns and villages. When Jesus saw the huge crowd, He was moved with compassion and healed the sick. He began to teach them many things.

Jesus continued to teach likewise for three days. Even the people sat down and attentively heard the word of God. The disciples came to Jesus and said that it would be better to send the people to buy bread for themselves. Jesus looked at them and said, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." The disciples then said that even if they buy bread for two hundred denarii (half a year's wages) it would not be sufficient for that crowd. There were 5000 men at that place, then how many would've been there including women and children?

Jesus asked how much bread they had. They said that they had 5 loaves and 2 fishes. Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. How many people can be fed by five loaves of bread and two fishes?

Just as Jesus commanded, the 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes were distributed among people. All ate of it till they were completely satisfied. The left out pieces of bread and fish were collected in 12 full baskets. Only the men who ate the bread and fish were 5000. It is such an established fact that we will experience victory when we fix our eyes on Jesus rather than looking at the lack!!! We should trust in the Lord Jesus Christ rather than trusting our situations.

Questions:

1. How many people were listening to the teaching of Jesus?
2. What was there to feed the entire crowd? What was the number of people who had gathered?
3. What did Jesus do?