

Mark 6

The Feeding of the Five Thousand. 34When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 35* By now it was already late and his disciples approached him and said, “This is a deserted place and it is already very late. 36Dismiss them so that they can go to the surrounding farms and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” 37He said to them in reply, “Give them some food yourselves.” But they said to him, “Are we to buy two hundred days’ wages worth of food and give it to them to eat?” 38He asked them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out they said, “Five loaves and two fish.” 39So he gave orders to have them sit down in groups on the green grass. 40* The people took their places in rows by hundreds and by fifties. 41Then, taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to [his] disciples to set before the people; he also divided the two fish among them all.* 42They all ate and were satisfied. 43And they picked up twelve wicker baskets full of fragments and what was left of the fish. 44Those who ate [of the loaves] were five thousand men.

The Walking on the Water.* 45Then he made his disciples get into the boat^D and precede him to the other side toward Bethsaida,* while he dismissed the crowd.

46* And when he had taken leave of them, he went off to the mountain to pray. 47When it was evening, the boat was far out on the sea and he was alone on shore. 48Then he saw that they were tossed about while rowing, for the wind was against them. About the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them walking on the sea.* He meant to pass by them. 49But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out. 50* They had all seen him and were terrified. But at once he spoke with them, “Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid!”

Mark 8

The Feeding of Four Thousand.* 1In those days when there again was a great crowd without anything to eat,^a he summoned the disciples and said, 2“My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. 3If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will collapse on the way, and some of them have come a great distance.” 4His disciples answered him, “Where can anyone get enough bread to satisfy them here in this deserted place?” 5Still he asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” “Seven,” they replied. 6* He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then, taking the seven loaves he gave thanks, broke them, and gave them to his disciples to distribute, and they distributed them to the crowd. 7They also had a few fish. He said the blessing over them and ordered them distributed also. 8They ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets. 9There were about four thousand people.

He dismissed them 10and got into the boat with his disciples and came to the region of Dalmanutha.

11^{*} The Pharisees came forward and began to argue with him,^b seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him.^c 12He sighed from the depth of his spirit and said, “Why does this generation seek a sign? Amen, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation.” **13Then he left them, got into the boat again, and went off to the other shore.**

When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?” They answered him, “Twelve.” 20“When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?” They answered [him], “Seven.”

Matthew 14

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. 15When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, “This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.” 16[Jesus] said to them, “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.” 17But they said to him, “Five loaves and two fish are all we have here.” 18Then he said, “Bring them here to me,” 19and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking^{*} the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. 20They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over^{*}—twelve wicker baskets full. 21Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.

22^h **Then he made the disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.** 23ⁱ After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. 24Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. 25During the fourth watch of the night,^{*} he came toward them, walking on the sea. 26When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. “It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear. 27At once [Jesus] spoke to them, “Take courage, it is I;^{*} do not be afraid.” 28Peter said to him in reply, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” 29He said, “Come.” Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. 30^j But when he saw how [strong] the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” 31Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, “O you of little faith,^{*} why did you doubt?”

After making the crossing, they came to land at Gennesaret.

Matthew 15

The Feeding of the Four Thousand.^{*} 32 Jesus summoned his disciples and said, “My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, for they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, for fear they may collapse on the way.” 33The disciples said to him, “Where could we ever get enough bread in this deserted place to satisfy

such a crowd?” 34Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?” “Seven,” they replied, “and a few fish.” 35He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground. 36Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, gave thanks, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. 37 They all ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets full. 38Those who ate were four thousand men, not counting women and children. 39And when he had dismissed the crowds, **he got into the boat and came to the district of Magadan.**

Matthew 16

9^f Do you not yet understand, and do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many wicker baskets you took up? 10^g Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you took up? 11How do you not comprehend that I was not speaking to you about bread? Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” 12Then they understood* that he was not telling them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Early Church

Late Church

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Jews | Gentiles |
| grass | ground |
| 5000 | 4000 |
| started by apostle | started by Jesus |
| 5 loaves | 7 loaves |
| 2 fishes | some fishes |
| 12 baskets | 7 baskets |

5 loaves for 5000 12 baskets left

7 loaves for 4000 7 baskets left

Bethsaida - The northeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee is a fertile plain

Gennesaret - situated on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Term was applied to the fertile crescent-shaped plain on the western shore of the lake, extending from Khan Minyeh (two or three miles south of Capernaum (*Tel-Hum*) on the north to the steep hill behind Mejdal (*Magdala*) on the south, and called by the Arabs *el-Ghuwei*. Supposed to be a corruption of Chinnereth, which see. "The land of Gennesaret," [Matthew 14:34](#) [Mark 6:53](#), was a tract of land some three or four; miles long on the western border of the Sea of Galilee. It was a lovely and exceedingly fertile region; in it probably lay Capernaum and Bethsaida of Galilee, places often visited by our Lord.

The 5000 and 4000 stand for the Church and Christians

The loaves and fishes stand for the Sacraments.

The baskets stand for the graces obtained through the Sacraments.

In the early Church, there will be more people in the Church participating in the Sacraments less often, but generating more grace for the salvation of souls because they are living more reverent and holy lives.

In the end times Church (our present day), there will be fewer people in the Church participating in the Sacraments (Holy Communion) more often, but generating far less grace for the salvation of souls because they are living less holy and more sinful lives.

Matthew 16

"Do you not yet understand, and do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many wicker baskets you took up? Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many **baskets you took up? How do you not comprehend that I was not speaking to you about bread?"**

5 loaves for 5000 and 12 baskets left. 7 loaves for 4000 and 7 baskets left. The 5000 and 4000 stand for the Church and Christians. The loaves and fishes stand for the Sacraments. The baskets stand for the graces obtained through the Sacraments.

In the early Church, there will be more people in the Church participating in the Sacraments less often, but generating more grace for the salvation of souls because they are living more reverent and holy lives.

In the end times Church (our present day), there will be fewer people in the Church participating in the Sacraments (Holy Communion) more often, but generating far less grace for the salvation of souls because they are living less holy and more sinful lives.