

Questions for Gospel Harmony #63

Matthew 14:13-36; Mark 6:30-56; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-21

[Question #1] Then the apostles gathered to Jesus when they had returned and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. And He said to them, "Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. After these things when Jesus heard it, He took them and went aside privately from there in the boat over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias, into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.

But when the multitudes knew it, [they] saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. A great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. They arrived before them and came together to Him. And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd, and He received them. So He began to teach them many things, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing. And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

[Question #2] Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. When the day began to wear away, it was evening, the twelve came and said to Him, "This is a deserted place, and already the hour is late, send the multitudes away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat. But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away."

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."

But He answered and said to 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 them something to eat?"

And He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see."

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 unless we go and buy food for all these people? For there were about five thousand men."

[Question #3] He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He said to His disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of fifty." And they did so, and made them all sit down. So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the

disciples gave to the multitudes; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. So they all ate and were filled.

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 and of the fish which were left over by those who had eaten. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. 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 the mountain by Himself alone.

[Question #4] Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land, and it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by. 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. They supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; for they all saw him, and were troubled. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."

[Question #5] And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."

So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Then He went up into the boat to them, then they willingly received Him into the boat. And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened. And immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

[Question #6] Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret and anchored there. And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, they sent out and ran through that whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were sick to wherever they heard He was. Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.

1. Why did Jesus see a need to go aside privately? Did it work? [Matthew 14:13-14; **Mark 6:30-34**; **Luke 9:10-11**; **John 6:1-3**]
 2. Why was it important for Jesus' disciples to provide food for the multitude? [Matthew 14:15-17; **Mark 6:35-38**; **Luke 9:12-14**; **John 6:4-9**]
 3. Explain Jesus' miracle and the effect it had on the people. [Matthew 14:18-21; **Mark 6:39-44**; **Luke 9:14-17**; **John 6:10-15**]
 4. Why did Jesus send His disciples across ahead of Him? Why did He walk on the sea to catch up with them? [Matthew 14:22-27; **Mark 6:45-50**; **John 6:16-20**]
 5. Explain Peter's doubt and the disciples' hardened hearts. [Matthew 14:28-32; **Mark 6:51-52**; **John 6:21**]
 6. What was the result of these miracles? How did the disciples and the multitudes respond? [Matthew 14:33-36; **Mark 6:53-56**]