

Mark Dispensationally Considered

**Mark 6:32-56: Two Powerful
Miracles**

Mark 6:31-43

- Mark 6:32—remember that in verses 30-31 the apostles had returned from being sent forth by Christ in verses 7-13. Now that they have returned and given their report they depart with Christ into a desert place by ship.
- Mark 6:33-34—when the people saw Christ departing they went on ahead of him. The word “outwent” means to go before or to proceed.
 - Luke 1:17 (1070)
 - II Corinthians 9:5 (1236)—go before, beforehand, before
- So the crowd went out and began assembling before Jesus had arrived. Verse 34 makes this point clear when it says, “And Jesus, when he came out saw much people.”
- Upon seeing the multitude Jesus was moved with compassion and begins to teach them because they were “as sheep not having a shepherd.”
- Luke 9:10-11 (1085)

Mark 6:31-43

- Mark 6:35-36—when “the day was far spend” or when evening had arrived the disciples advise Christ to send the crowds away into the surrounding villages to buy food because they had nothing to eat.
 - Luke 9:12
 - Matthew 14:15 (1018)
- Mark 6:37—Jesus answers the Apostles question by instructing them to give the people something to eat. The Apostles then respond by asking if they should go and purchase bread from them to eat.

Mark 6:31-43

- The word translated “pennyworth” is an English translation of the Greek word *denarion*. A Roman silver coin in NT time. It was the principal silver coin of the Roman Empire. From the parable of the labourers in the vineyard, it would seem that a denarius was then the ordinary pay for a day's wages. (Mt. 20:2-13) The word is translated penny 9 times, pence 5 times, and pennyworth 2 times by the King James translators.
 - Matthew 18:28 (1024)—pence
 - Mathew 20:2, 9, 10, 13 (1026)—penny
- John 6:5-7 (1122)—from John’s Gospel we learn that two hundred pennyworth of bread was not even enough to feed the crowd that had gathered. This tells us that the Apostles’ questioning of Christ in Mark 6:37 was meant to inform Christ that two hundred pennyworth would not purchase enough bread to feed the crowd.

Mark 6:31-43

- Mark 6:38—Jesus instructs the Apostles to go find out how many loaves of bread they have. After searching the crowd they report back to Christ that they have five loaves and two fish.
 - John 6:8-9—according to John it was Andrew who told Christ about a boy in the crowd that had five loaves of barley and two fish.
- Mark 6:39-40—Jesus tells his disciples to have the people sit on the green grass in ranks or groups of fifty and one hundred.
- Mark 6:41-42—upon blessing the food Jesus divides it and distributes the food to the Apostles to pass out. Verse 42 says that the people ate until they were full.
- John 6:12—when the people were full Jesus has the disciples gather up the leftovers.

Mark 6:31-43

- Mark 6:43-44—12 baskets of leftovers were taken up after 5,000 people had eaten until they were full from five loaves of bread and two fish.
- Matthew 14:21—indicates that the 5,000 number does not even include the women and children.
- John 6:14-15—this miracle convinces many of who Christ was to the point where they were ready to by force make him a king.

Mark 6:45-52

- Mark 6:45—straightway or immediately Jesus sends the 12 before him unto Bethsaida while he sent the people away.
- Mark 6:46—once again we see that Jesus took time to pray. We need to remember Paul's instructions to the body of Christ to pray without ceasing.
 - I Thessalonians 5:17—pray without ceasing
 - Romans 12:12—continue instant in prayer
- Mark 6:47—because Jesus had stayed behind to pray the ship the disciples were in was in the middle of sea while Jesus was still on the land.

Mark 6:45-52

- Mark 6:48—says that Jesus was walking upon sea about the fourth watch of the night.
 - Matthew 14:25
- Mark 13:34-37—sets forth the four watches of the night.
 - Even (6-9pm)
 - Mid-Night (10-12am)
 - Cockcrowing (1-3am)
 - Morning (4-6am)
- So when Jesus comes walking on the water during the 4th watch of the night it is morning i.e., day is just starting to break.

Mark 6:45-52

- Mark 6:48—please notice that Christ’s intention as He is walking on the water was to pass them by or meet up with them on shore. That is why in verse 45 He sent them “before unto Bethsaida.”
- Mark 6:49-50—that fact that they see him walking on the sea indicates that morning was beginning to break. It was only after they cried out in fear supposing He was a spirit that Christ spoke with them.
- Matthew 14:28-33—Matthew is the only Gospel writer to record Peter’s attempt to walk on water. Peter was not walking by faith before he stepped onto the water.

Mark 6:45-52

- Mark 6:51-52—when Christ entered into the ship the wind ceased and they were amazed beyond measure. Do you see how quickly these guys forgot about miracle of the loaves? There was time in this account where their hearts were actually hardened.
- John 6:15-21—the feeding of the five thousand and Jesus walking on the water are the fourth and fifth signs of the eight recorded in John’s gospel. These are the only two of the eight signs in John which appear in Matthew, Mark, or Luke. (Baker, 127-129)
- In both of these signs Christ as Creator is displayed. Only the creator could transform five small loaves and two fish into enough food to feed over five thousand people with twelve baskets leftover. Likewise, only the creator could have such powers over the forces of nature as to defy gravity by walking on water, calm the winds, and instantly cause to boat to have reached its destination. (Baker, 127-129)

Mark 6:45-52

- Through these signs, Christ is seen as the faithful Creator of Israel who will take them through their time of rejection and trouble, scattered among the nations, and bring them to their desired haven (the millennial rest). (Baker 129)
- II Corinthians 5:7 (1233)—even when God was dealing with Israel according to signs and wonders they were consistently never enough for the people to whom they were given. As members of the Body of Christ we need to walk by faith in God's written word to us through the message and ministry of the apostle Paul.