GOSPEL OF MARK JESUS CHRIST, SERVANT OF GOD THE BATTLE OF THE KINGDOMS UNDERSTANDING THE LOAVES

- 1. THE BATTLE OF THE KINGDOMS CONTINUE
 - A. MARK 6:1-6 JESUS LEFT THERE AND WENT TO HIS HOMETOWN, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DISCIPLES. ²When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed."Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! ³Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor." ⁵He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶And he was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.
 - I. FAMILIARITY
 - (1) THE WORD FEAR DOES NOT APPEAR IN THIS ACCOUNT OF JESUS RETURNING TO HIS HOME TOWN. YET THERE IS A TYPE OF FEAR HERE. A FEAR OF SEEING CHANGE
 - (2) JESUS LEAVES HOME, HE RETURNS.
 - (3) ON SATURDAY HE GOES TO THE SYNAGOGUE.
 - (4) HE BEGINS TO TEACH.
 - (5) THE PEOPLE ARE AMAZED.
 - (A) WHAT IS THIS WISDOM THAT HE HAS BEEN GIVEN.
 - (B) HE EVEN DOES MIRACLES.
 - II. HOW DO THE PEOPLE SEE JESUS.
 - (1) BEFORE THE HOLY SPIRIT
 - (2) JUST AS A CARPENTER
 - (3) JUST AS A BROTHER.
 - (A) WE ALL HAVE MANY ROLES IN LIFE, THOSE ROLES DO NOT PREVENT GOD THE FATHER FROM USING US.
 - III. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP WITH FAITH AND FEAR WHEN IT COMES TO HIS NEIGHBORS AND FAMILY.
 - IV. WHAT KEEPS US FROM TURNING OUR FEAR INTO FAITH?
 - V. NO WHERE DO WE FIND JESUS UNABLE TO DO SOMETHING SOME ONE ASKS OF HIM. SO WHO WAS THIS TEST FOR AND HOW DID THEY DO?
 - VI. HOW CAN THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS CALM OUR FEARS AND STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH?
 - VII. THINKING BACK TO THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER, WHAT KIND OF SOIL CAN YOU FIND IN THIS PASSAGE?
- 2. Christian Burn out This is going to be a very complicated picture. It starts here with Mark 6:7 and goes to verse 52. It deals with burnout, an all too common experience among Christians today; One of its most disastrous consequence is a

HARDENED HEART THAT KEEPS US FROM BEING REFRESHED BY OUR LORD. IN THIS STUDY WE SEE THE DISCIPLES SUFFERING FROM BURNOUT AND CATCH A VISION OF HOW JESUS CAN HELP US TO OUNTER4ET ITS EFFECTS.

- A. MARK 6:7-13 ⁷Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits. ⁸These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the Journey except a staff--no bread, no bag, no money in your belts.

 ⁹Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. ¹⁰Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. ¹¹And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave, as a testimony against them." ¹²They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.
 - I. DO YOU EVER FEEL THAT YOUR BIBLE STUDY IS BORING, YOUR PRAYERS ARE PATHETIC, YOUR MINISTRY IS MISERABLE AND YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE IS LIFELESS? THEN MAYBE IT IS TIME TO LOOK AT THE LOAVES.
 - II. COMPARE THIS PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO JESUS' 49 DAYS OF TESTING AND THEN HIS BEING MINISTERED TO BY THE ANGELS. IF YOU ARE GOING TO RELY UPON GOD AND HIS POWER TO DO MIGHT WORKS, SHOULD YOU NOT RELY UPON GOD TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUR LIFE. SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THESE THINGS WILL BE ADDED UNTO YOU!
 - III. WHAT DID JESUS' INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TWELVE TELL US ABOUT THE KIND OF MINISTRY THEY WERE TO HAVE?
 - IV. COULD THEY HAVE FAILURES? BATTLE LINES ARE BEING DRAWN.

3. Do things go against you?

A. MARK 6:14-29 14King Herod Heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well KNOWN. SOME WERE SAYING, "JOHN THE BAPTIST HAS BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD, AND THAT IS WHY MIRACULOUS POWERS ARE AT WORK IN HIM." 15OTHERS SAID, "HE IS ELIJAH." AND STILL OTHERS CLAIMED, "HE IS A PROPHET, LIKE ONE OF THE PROPHETS OF LONG AGO." ¹⁶BUT WHEN HEROD HEARD THIS, HE SAID, "JOHN, THE MAN I BEHEADED, HAS BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD!" ¹⁷FOR HEROD HIMSELF HAD GIVEN ORDERS TO HAVE JOHN ARRESTED, AND HE HAD HIM BOUND AND PUT IN PRISON. HE DID THIS BECAUSE OF HERODIAS, HIS BROTHER PHILIP'S WIFE, WHOM HE HAD MARRIED. 18 FOR JOHN HAD BEEN SAYING TO HEROD, "IT IS NOT LAWFUL FOR YOU TO HAVE YOUR BROTHER'S WIFE." 19SO HERODIAS NURSED A GRUDGE AGAINST JOHN AND WANTED TO KILL HIM. BUT SHE WAS NOT ABLE TO, ²⁰BECAUSE HEROD FEARED JOHN AND PROTECTED HIM, KNOWING HIM TO BE A RIGHTEOUS AND HOLY MAN. WHEN HEROD HEARD JOHN, HE WAS GREATLY PUZZLED; YET HE LIKED TO LISTEN TO HIM. ²¹FINALLY THE OPPORTUNE TIME CAME. ON HIS BIRTHDAY HEROD GAVE A BANQUET FOR HIS HIGH OFFICIALS AND MILITARY COMMANDERS AND THE LEADING MEN OF GALILEE. ²²WHEN THE DAUGHTER OF HERODIAS CAME IN AND DANCED, SHE PLEASED HEROD AND HIS DINNER GUESTS. THE KING SAID TO THE GIRL, "ASK ME FOR ANYTHING YOU WANT, AND I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU." 23AND HE PROMISED HER WITH AN OATH, "WHATEVER YOU ASK I WILL GIVE YOU, UP TO HALF MY KINGDOM." ²⁴SHE WENT OUT AND SAID TO HER MOTHER, "WHAT SHALL I ASK FOR?" "THE

HEAD OF JOHN THE BAPTIST," SHE ANSWERED. ²⁵AT ONCE THE GIRL HURRIED IN TO THE KING WITH THE REQUEST: "I WANT YOU TO GIVE ME RIGHT NOW THE HEAD OF JOHN THE BAPTIST ON A PLATTER." ²⁶THE KING WAS GREATLY DISTRESSED, BUT BECAUSE OF HIS OATHS AND HIS DINNER GUESTS, HE DID NOT WANT TO REFUSE HER. ²⁷SO HE IMMEDIATELY SENT AN EXECUTIONER WITH ORDERS TO BRING JOHN'S HEAD. THE MAN WENT, BEHEADED JOHN IN THE PRISON, ²⁸AND BROUGHT BACK HIS HEAD ON A PLATTER. HE PRESENTED IT TO THE GIRL, AND SHE GAVE IT TO HER MOTHER. ²⁹ON HEARING OF THIS, JOHN'S DISCIPLES CAME AND TOOK HIS BODY AND LAID IT IN A TOMB.

- I. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SETS OF PICTURES WE SEE THIS RECOUNT OF THE BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST. WHY?
- II. JESUS IS A MAN OF AUTHORITY, KING HEROD IS A MAN OF AUTHORITY, HOW DO THEY USE THEIR AUTHORITY?
- III. THIS FLASHBACK TO THE EXECUTION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST INTERRUPTS THE ACCOUNT OF JESUS' SENDING OUT THE TWELVE TO PREACH AND HEAL.
 - (1) WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE MARK RECOUNTS IT HERE?
 - (A) COMPARE THE TWELVE [SERVANTS OF JESUS] TO HERODIAS, THIS WOMAN WAS BOTH NIECE AND WIFE TO PHILIP AND HEROD, BEING DAUGHTER OF ARISTOBULUS, SON OF HEROD THE GREAT. SHE FIRST MARRIED PHILIP, HER UNCLE, BY WHOM SHE HAD SALOME. LATER SHE LEFT HIM TO LIVE PUBLICLY WITH HER BROTHER-IN-LAW, WHO HAD BEEN BEFORE MARRIED TO THE DAUGHTER OF ARETAS, KING OF ABADIA PETRA. ARETAS MADE WAR ON HIM AND DESTROYED HEROD'S ARMY, WHICH JOSEPHUS SAYS WAS JUDGMENT ON HIM FOR MURDERING JOHN THE BAPTIST.
 - (B) JESUS' GAVE AUTHORITY TO HIS FOLLOWERS, HEROD GIVES AUTHORITY TO THE DAUGHTER OF HERODIAS, WHAT IS THE RESULT?

(C) TWO BATTLES

JESUS IN BATTLE WITH THE RULER OF DARKNESS	HEROD IS BOTHERED BY THE THINGS HE HAS DONE. SO HE IS IN BATTLE WITH HIMSELF
JESUS SENDS 12 - SENDING THE POWER OF GODS' KINGDOM	HE IS A KING OF THIS WORLD. WHO WILL HE INVITE TO HIS PARTY. WHO WILL HE RESPOND TO
FOR WHAT PURPOSE	FOR WHAT PURPOSE
WHO WERE THEY DEPENDING ON	WHO WAS HE LOOKING TO FOR HIS PLEASURE
WHAT DID JESUS WANT	WHAT DID HE WANT
WHAT WAS THE RESULT	WHAT WAS THE RESULT

4. When BREAD is needed!

A. MARK 6:30-44 ³⁰THE APOSTLES GATHERED AROUND JESUS AND REPORTED TO HIM ALL THEY HAD DONE AND TAUGHT. ³¹THEN, BECAUSE SO MANY PEOPLE WERE COMING AND

GOING THAT THEY DID NOT EVEN HAVE A CHANCE TO EAT, HE SAID TO THEM, "COME WITH ME BY YOURSELVES TO A QUIET PLACE AND GET SOME REST." 32SO THEY WENT AWAY BY THEMSELVES IN A BOAT TO A SOLITARY PLACE. ³³BUT MANY WHO SAW THEM LEAVING RECOGNIZED THEM AND RAN ON FOOT FROM ALL THE TOWNS AND GOT THERE AHEAD OF THEM. ³⁴WHEN JESUS LANDED AND SAW A LARGE CROWD, HE HAD COMPASSION ON THEM, BECAUSE THEY WERE LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD. SO HE BEGAN TEACHING THEM MANY THINGS. ³⁵BY THIS TIME IT WAS LATE IN THE DAY, SO HIS DISCIPLES CAME TO HIM. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. ³⁶Send the PEOPLE AWAY SO THEY CAN GO TO THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE AND VILLAGES AND BUY THEMSELVES SOMETHING TO EAT." ³⁷BUT HE ANSWERED, "YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT. "THEY SAID TO HIM, "THAT WOULD TAKE EIGHT MONTHS OF A MAN'S WAGES! ARE WE TO GO AND SPEND THAT MUCH ON BREAD AND GIVE IT TO THEM TO EAT?" ³⁸"HOW MANY LOAVES DO YOU HAVE?" HE ASKED. "GO AND SEE."WHEN THEY FOUND OUT, THEY SAID, "FIVE--AND TWO FISH." ³⁹THEN JESUS DIRECTED THEM TO HAVE ALL THE PEOPLE SIT DOWN IN GROUPS ON THE GREEN GRASS. ⁴⁰SO THEY SAT DOWN IN GROUPS OF HUNDREDS AND FIFTIES. ⁴¹TAKING 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 SET BEFORE THE PEOPLE. HE ALSO DIVIDED THE TWO FISH AMONG THEM ALL. ⁴²THEY ALL ATE AND WERE SATISFIED, ⁴³AND THE DISCIPLES PICKED UP TWELVE BASKETFULS OF BROKEN PIECES OF BREAD AND FISH. 44THE NUMBER OF THE MEN WHO HAD EATEN WAS FIVE THOUSAND.

- I. WHEN THE REPORTED TO JESUS ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED, WHAT DID HE SAY?
 - (1) THE WORK OF THE LORD IS HARD, YOU ARE IN A BATTLE. JESUS KNEW WHAT THEY NEEDED.
- II. WHAT DIFFERENCES ARE THERE BETWEEN JESUS' APPROACH TO THE CROWD AND THAT OF THE DISCIPLES?
- III. WHEN HAS TIREDNESS BLUNTED YOUR DESIRE TO CARE FOR OTHERS?
- IV. YOU SAW A BANQUET GIVEN BY HEROD, ONE GIVEN BY CHRIST, HOW DO THEY COMPARE WITH ONE ANOTHER?
- V. WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT ABOUT THE TWO FISH, AND THE FIVE LOAVES ACCORDING TO MY STUDIES?
 - (1) Two separation or witness Gods people are separated unto Him, He will care for them. This will be a witness of the love of God.
 - (2) FIVE GODS' GRACE, THEY DID NOTHING TO RECEIVE THIS FOOD, ALL THEY HAD WAS A NEED.

VI. THE PICTURE

VII.

LONELY PLACE	NEEDED A SHEPHERD
DISCIPLES	SEND THEM AWAY
JESUS	YOU GIVE THEM TO EAT
DISCIPLES	SHALL WE BUY IT [USE A NATURAL MEANS]

JESUS	WHAT DO YOU HAVE
DISCIPLES	FIVE LOAVES - TWO FISH
SET BEFORE THE PEOPLE	THE MEANS TO MEET THEIR NEEDS
RESULT	12 BASKETFULS - IN GODS' KINGDOM THERE IS AN ABUNDANCE FOR ALL

5. WE WILL LEARN

- A. Mark 6:45-52 ⁴⁵Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. ⁴⁷When evening came, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. About the fourth watch of the night he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹But when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." ⁵¹Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵²for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.
 - I. FOUR WATCH CREATIVE POWER -
 - (1) GOD STILL HAS CREATIVE POWER AS SHOWN BY THE FEEDING OF THE 5,000.
 - (2) JESUS THE SERVANT OF GOD SHOWS THAT GOD HAS POWER OVER THE NATURAL LAWS BY THE FULL ANOINTING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
 - (A) JESUS CLAIMS NO POWER IN HIMSELF BUT SAYS IT COMES FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT BEING UPON HIM.
 - (I) FURTHER PROOF OF THIS CAN BE FOUND BY PETER WALKING ON WATER.
 - (3) IF WE CAN SEE THAT IT WAS THROUGH THE ANOINTING OF THE SPIRIT THAT JESUS DID HIS WORKS WE CAN SEE HOW BELIEVERS MAY DO THE WORKS OF CHRIST AS HE PROMISED.
 - (4) What should the disciples have understood about the loaves?
 - (A) EZEKIEL 34:1-16 THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME: ²"SON OF MAN, PROPHESY AGAINST THE SHEPHERDS OF ISRAEL; PROPHESY AND SAY TO THEM: THIS IS WHAT THE SOVEREIGN LORD SAYS: WOE TO THE SHEPHERDS OF ISRAEL WHO ONLY TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES! SHOULD NOT SHEPHERDS TAKE CARE OF THE FLOCK? ³YOU EAT THE CURDS, CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH THE WOOL AND SLAUGHTER THE CHOICE ANIMALS, BUT YOU DO NOT TAKE CARE OF THE FLOCK. ⁴YOU HAVE NOT STRENGTHENED THE WEAK OR HEALED THE SICK OR BOUND UP THE INJURED. YOU HAVE NOT BROUGHT BACK THE STRAYS OR SEARCHED FOR THE LOST. YOU HAVE RULED THEM HARSHLY AND BRUTALLY. ⁵SO THEY WERE SCATTERED BECAUSE THERE WAS NO SHEPHERD, AND WHEN THEY WERE SCATTERED THEY BECAME FOOD FOR ALL THE WILD

ANIMALS. MY SHEEP WANDERED OVER ALL THE MOUNTAINS AND ON EVERY HIGH HILL. THEY WERE SCATTERED OVER THE WHOLE EARTH, AND NO ONE SEARCHED OR LOOKED FOR THEM. 7" 'THEREFORE, YOU SHEPHERDS, HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD: 8AS SURELY AS I LIVE, DECLARES THE SOVEREIGN LORD, BECAUSE MY FLOCK LACKS A SHEPHERD AND SO HAS BEEN PLUNDERED AND HAS BECOME FOOD FOR ALL THE WILD ANIMALS, AND BECAUSE MY SHEPHERDS DID NOT SEARCH FOR MY FLOCK BUT CARED FOR THEMSELVES RATHER THAN FOR MY FLOCK, ⁹THEREFORE, O SHEPHERDS, HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD: ¹⁰THIS IS WHAT THE SOVEREIGN LORD SAYS: I AM AGAINST THE SHEPHERDS AND WILL HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE FOR MY FLOCK. I WILL REMOVE THEM FROM TENDING THE FLOCK SO THAT THE SHEPHERDS CAN NO LONGER FEED THEMSELVES. I WILL RESCUE MY FLOCK FROM THEIR MOUTHS, AND IT WILL NO LONGER BE FOOD FOR THEM. 11" 'FOR THIS IS WHAT THE SOVEREIGN LORD SAYS: I MYSELF WILL SEARCH FOR MY SHEEP AND LOOK AFTER THEM. 12 As A SHEPHERD LOOKS AFTER HIS SCATTERED FLOCK WHEN HE IS WITH THEM, SO WILL I LOOK AFTER MY SHEEP. I WILL RESCUE THEM FROM ALL THE PLACES WHERE THEY WERE SCATTERED ON A DAY OF CLOUDS AND DARKNESS. ¹³I WILL BRING THEM OUT FROM THE NATIONS AND GATHER THEM FROM THE COUNTRIES, AND I WILL BRING THEM INTO THEIR OWN LAND. I WILL PASTURE THEM ON THE MOUNTAINS OF ISRAEL, IN THE RAVINES AND IN ALL THE SETTLEMENTS IN THE LAND. ¹⁴I WILL TEND THEM IN A GOOD PASTURE, AND THE MOUNTAIN HEIGHTS OF ISRAEL WILL BE THEIR GRAZING LAND. THERE THEY WILL LIE DOWN IN GOOD GRAZING LAND, AND THERE THEY WILL FEED IN A RICH PASTURE ON THE MOUNTAINS OF ISRAEL. ¹⁵I MYSELF WILL TEND MY SHEEP AND HAVE THEM LIE DOWN, DECLARES THE SOVEREIGN LORD. ¹⁶I WILL SEARCH FOR THE LOST AND BRING BACK THE STRAYS. I WILL BIND UP THE INJURED AND STRENGTHEN THE WEAK, BUT THE SLEEK AND THE STRONG I WILL DESTROY. I WILL SHEPHERD THE FLOCK WITH JUSTICE

- (B) Psalm 107:23-32 OTHERS WENT OUT ON THE SEA IN SHIPS; THEY WERE MERCHANTS ON THE MIGHTY WATERS. ²⁴They saw the works of the Lord, his wonderful deeds in the deep. ²⁵ he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. ²⁶They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away. ²⁷ They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their wits' end. ²⁸Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. ²⁹He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. ³⁰They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven. ³¹Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. ³²Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people and praise him in the council of the elders.
- (C) EXODUS 16^{TH} Chapter The feeding of the people
- (D) JOB 9:8-11 HE ALONE STRETCHES OUT THE HEAVENS AND TREADS ON THE WAVES OF THE SEA. ⁹HE IS THE MAKER OF THE BEAR AND ORION, THE

PLEIADES AND THE CONSTELLATIONS OF THE SOUTH. 10 HE PERFORMS WONDERS THAT CANNOT BE FATHOMED, MIRACLES THAT CANNOT BE COUNTED. 11 WHEN HE PASSES ME, I CANNOT SEE HIM; WHEN HE GOES BY, I CANNOT PERCEIVE HIM

(5) JESUS STATED THAT THE DISCIPLES DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE LOAVES, DO YOU?.

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VIOLATING TRADITION

- 6. Mark 6:53-7:4 ⁵³When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. ⁵⁴As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. ⁵⁵They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went--into villages, towns or countryside--they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed. Mark 7:1-4 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and ²Saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed. ³(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. ⁴When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)
 - A. AS WE SEE JESUS MOVING THROUGH THE MARKETPLACE HE GOES ABOUT HEALING THE SICK.
 - I. BY CONTRAST WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PHARISEES TRAVEL THROUGH THE MARKET PLACE?
 - II. WHERE DID ALL THESE PEOPLE COME FROM?
 - III. WHERE DID THEY HEAR ABOUT JESUS?
 - IV. AGAIN THIS IS A CLEAR PICTURE OF THE WORK OF JESUS VERSES THE TEACHINGS OF THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS.