

MATTHEW 13:53-14:33

A. Matthew 13:53-58 - And it came to pass, *that* when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence. Matt. 13:54 And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this *man* this wisdom, and *these* mighty works? Matt. 13:55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? Matt. 13:56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this *man* all these things? Matt. 13:57 And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. Matt. 13:58 And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

1. After teaching His disciples the parables, Jesus returns to His own homeland. Chapter Thirteen ends with Him being **rejected** as a prophet. He has been rejected in Chapters 10, 11, 12, and now 13. Now it is a fact and it is not something they are going to do.

John 1:11 - He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

*From this point on, we will find the Lord **preparing** the 12 for His **departure** so that they would be equipped to carry on in His **absence** (Acts 1).

2. In verses 55-56, it shows that Jesus had **brothers** and **sisters**. This proves that Mary was **not a perpetual virgin** as the R.C.C. states. The term "Queen of Heaven" is a term used by many idolatrous religions coming from **Baal** worship. Examples: Egypt: mother-Isis and child-Horus, or India: Davaki and child-Krishna.

Jeremiah 44:15-17 - Then all the men which knew that their wives had burned incense unto other gods, and all the women that stood by, a great multitude, even all the people that dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying, Jer. 44:16 *As for* the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee. Jer. 44:17 But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for *then* had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

- a. Note Jesus' Family:

John 2:17 - And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

Psalms 69:9 & 8 - For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. Psalms 69:8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.

Luke 2:7a - And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes...

Acts 1:14b - ...with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Matthew 1:24-25 - Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: Matt. 1:25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Mark 6:3 - Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

- b. Mary did not give birth to God, nor to Jesus Christ-the eternal Son of God. Mary was not the mother of divinity, but only of Jesus' humanity. John 2:1-2 says [...the mother of Jesus], not the mother of the Son of God!

*An eternal God does not need a mother.

3. In verses 57-58, Jesus says a prophet has little honor in his own homeland (city) or family. Why is that?

B. Matthew 14:1-2 - At that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus, Matt. 14:2 And said unto his servants, This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him.

1. This Herod is the son of the Herod in Matthew 2. He hears about the fame of Jesus and tells his advisors that it must be John the Baptist. Herod has a guilty conscience because he had John beheaded.

*Isn't it strange that Herod was superstitious enough to believe John had risen from the dead, but later he refuses to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead.

2. Remember, the arrest of John the Baptist began Christ's Galilean ministry. John's death marked the rejection of Christ by the nation Israel. In verses 3-12, it tells us how it came about (how Herod killed John).

C. Matthew 14:3-12 - For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put *him* in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. Matt. 14:4 For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her. Matt. 14:5 And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet. Matt. 14:6 But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. Matt. 14:7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. Matt. 14:8 And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger. Matt. 14:9 And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded *it* to be given *her*. Matt. 14:10 And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. Matt. 14:11 And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought *it* to her mother. Matt. 14:12 And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

1. Herod had stolen his brother's wife, Herodias, and John had called the king out for immorality. Herod was angered, but not as much as Herodias was!
- a. History says that Herod had visited his brother in Rome. That is where he met Philip's wife, Herodias, and the temptation was too great for Herod and Herodias. They developed an illicit love affair which destroyed two households.
- b. Herodias left her husband Philip, taking her daughter Salome with her. Herod banished his wife to make a place for his new mistress. This caused political tension in Israel.
- c. In doing this, Herod violated two cardinal laws of the Hebrew faith. One was the act of adultery, condemned by Moses. Two was taking another man's wife. It was not permitted for any man to marry his brother's wife (while the brother was alive). The nation was shocked. But, because of the king's tremendous power, only John the Baptist had the courage to condemn the ruler.

2. The people knew John was a **prophet**, but still allowed his murder to happen. That revealed the darkness of Israel's heart.
3. At Herod's birthday party, Herodias had her daughter Salome to **dance** before the king. She got Herod all excited and worked up, so he made an oath that promised her anything she wanted - just to have her.

*"Sin and lust can do strange things to a man's mind. They can turn him into a **fool**."

4. This was a deceitful plot by her own mother to get the head of John the Baptist on a flat platter. Herodias' **vindictiveness** created lust, crime, bloodshed, and she outfoxed Herod. Not much has changed in our world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.
5. After John's beheading, some of **John's** disciples came and took the body (without its head) and buried it. They then went and told Jesus the news.

*Remember, John and Christ were **one** ministry.

D. **Matthew 14:13-21** -When Jesus heard *of it*, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard *thereof*, they followed him on foot out of the cities. Matt. 14:14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick. Matt. 14:15 And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals. Matt. 14:16 But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat. Matt. 14:17 And they say unto him, We have here but five loaves, and two fishes. Matt. 14:18 He said, Bring them hither to me. Matt. 14:19 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to *his* disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. Matt. 14:20 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. Matt. 14:21 And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

1. Jesus **with**draws from the unbelieving nation into a desert (deserted) place. But a multitude followed after Him. This moved Christ's heart, so He healed the sick. He demonstrated what the kingdom will be like physically-good health.
2. This miracle here was one of the greatest events of the miraculous in the disciples' lives up to this point. **All** of the gospel writers mention this miracle.
 - a. After teaching and healing the multitude most of the day, it's beginning to become early evening. The disciples ask Christ to send the people **away** in order for them to find some lodging and food. There wasn't anything where they were (deserted place).
 - b. They think it is impossible to **feed** this many, numerically and financially. We know from Luke's account that they only had one **boy's** lunch, consisting of [five loaves and two fishes]. There are in the multitude 5000 men plus women and children - probably equaling around **10,000** people!
 - c. Christ tells them to sit down in groups of **fifty** (Luke 9:14-15). Jesus lifts the food toward heaven, blesses it, then the disciples begin distributing baskets of food to the hungry multitude. As the food is passed to each person, it **multiplies** constantly so that the next person could be filled also.

- d. This was another lesson that the disciples were to learn. They were to be the **in**struments in Christ's hands-plans, but He **alone** was the source and provider of the miraculous blessings. They needed to **believe** in Him, even when it looked impossible. They needed to say "Lord give us and we will feed them".
 - e. The disciples afterward collected the fragments and they had **12 baskets full**! Christ uses this miracle to teach His disciples that they could not look to their **own** selves to minister to the **Nation** Israel, but they had to look to **Him** in faith to accomplish that.
3. The book of John gives us a clue to the multitude's **response**.

- a. John 6:14-15 - Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world. John 6:15 When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

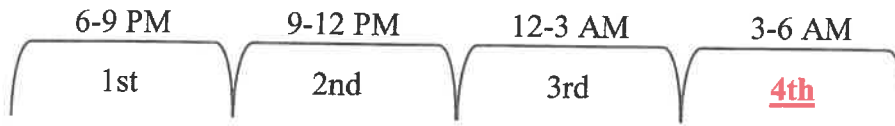
*This seemingly was good, but **why** did Jesus leave?

- b. John 6:26, 30 - Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. John 6:30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

*The people wanted Him, not because of the miracle, but because they had gotten fed - filled. They missed the **point** of the miracle that demonstrated He was Jehovah in their **midst**, and they should have believed in Him as the Messiah!

- E. Matthew 14:22-33 - And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. Matt. 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. Matt. 14:24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. Matt. 14:25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. Matt. 14:26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. Matt. 14:27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. Matt. 14:28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. Matt. 14:29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. Matt. 14:30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. Matt. 14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? Matt. 14:32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Matt. 14:33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

1. After telling His disciples to enter a boat and to go to the other side, Jesus tells the crowd of people to leave. Jesus went up on a mountain to be alone to **pray**.
2. As night had closed in, a **storm** had developed making it difficult to man the boat. They had rowed 25-30 furlongs toward Capernaum when, between 3-6 am, Jesus came walking **on** the tempestuous waves. At first, they think it is a ghost (they are crying out in fear). Then Jesus speaks to them, saying they had nothing to fear. Because of fear, they had not expected to be delivered (Mark 6:52).



- a. Peter is amazed at what he is seeing and asks Jesus to allow him to **walk** on the water. Jesus says, "Come", and Peter steps out of the boat and begins walking on the water!
- b. It was when Peter took his eyes **off** of Jesus that he began to sink and cried out for Jesus' help. Jesus graciously saves Peter by taking his hand. Christ **gently** rebukes Peter for his **lack** of faith. When they both entered into the boat, the **wind** immediately ceased and they were almost at their destination!

Note: This is a tremendous example of Christ's **deity**. Job gives a testimony to the majesty of God in Job 9:4-8 - [*He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered? Job 9:5 Which removeth the mountains, and they know not: which overturneth them in his anger. Job 9:6 Which shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble. Job 9:7 Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars. Job 9:8 Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea.]*

*The disciples worshipped Him!

- c. This story is also a picture of the **coming** storm (Tribulation) and when Jesus **returns** to calm the storm on earth by delivering and rescuing them (remnant).