

Lessons from the Boat

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Beware of Leaven

Matthew 16 : 5 – 7

Mark 8 : 13 – 16

Jesus and His disciples enter the boat.

“...they had forgotten to take bread.”

“...they did not have more than one loaf...”

Jesus makes an unusual comment:

“Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees...
Sadducees...Herod.”

heed – ‘horao’ – to stare at, to discern clearly

The disciples reason:

“It is because we have take no bread.”

What is the lesson?

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Matthew 15 : 29 – 39 Mark 8 : 1 – 9

Great multitudes come to Jesus for healing

“...lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others...”

The result?

“...the multitude saw...they glorified the God of Israel.”

Jesus speaks : “I have compassion...”

Why?

“...they have...continued...three days...”

“...they...have nothing to eat...”

“...I do not want to send them away hungry...”

“...some...have come from afar.”

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Matthew 15 : 29 – 39 Mark 8 : 1 – 9

The disciples answer :

“Where could we get enough bread in the wilderness...” (Matthew)

“How can one satisfy...with bread...in the wilderness?” (Mark)

Jesus responds - It's logical isn't it?

“How many loaves do you have?”

The answer – “Seven, and a few little fish.”

“So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground.”

Multitude - ~ 4,000 men, besides women and children

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Matthew 15 : 29 – 39 Mark 8 : 1 – 9

The ability and power of the little (few) :

The disciples provided the food to the multitude.

They took up what was left.

“...seven large baskets full...”

What is the lesson?

There was none –

“...He sent away the multitude, got into the boat,
and came to the region of Madgala (Dalmanutha).”

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Matthew 16 : 8 – 12 Mark 8 : 17 – 21

Do you not understand? Do you not remember?

“When I broke...for the five thousand...how many...?”

“Twelve”

“When I broke...for the four thousand...how many...?”

“Seven”

“How is it you do not understand?”

So what is the lesson?

“Then they understood...not...beware...leaven of bread, but of the doctrine...”

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What lesson is Jesus teaching? “Do you not remember?”

How far does –

5 loaves and 2 fish go? (Matthew 14)

~5,000 men plus women and children with
12 baskets to spare.

7 loaves and a few little fish go? (Matthew 15)

~4,000 men plus women and children with
7 baskets to spare

How far does a “little” false doctrine go?

Galatians 5 : 9 – A long way!

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What lesson is Jesus teaching? “Do you not understand?”

Luke 12 : 1

“...the leaven of...hypocrisy.”

‘zume’ – ferment; metaphorically of inveterate mental and moral corruption, viewed in its tendency to infect others

I Corinthians 5 : 6

“...a little leaven leavens the whole...”

However, there is such a thing as good leaven?

Luke 13 : 20 – 21 (Matthew 13 : 33)

How far will proper teaching go? – Forever

How much will proper teaching do? – All