

## **Jesus and the Feeding of the 4000**

**Text:** Mark 8:1-10

**What is the difference between Jesus feeding the 5000 and the feeding of the 4000?** The 5000 took place in Bethsaida near the Sea of Galilee, which was a Jewish crowd. The 4000 took place in the region of the Gerasenes, in the region around the Decapolis. This is a Gentile crowd. The blessings of Jesus the messiah are for all of the people on earth.

### **When you see Jesus feeding the 4000...**

#### **1. \_\_\_\_\_ his compassion on the crowd (vs. 1-2)**

- A. Only here and in the parallel passage (Matt. 15:32) did Jesus use this word of Himself. When he fed the 5,000, Jesus expressed “compassion” for the people’s lost spiritual condition (6:34); here, He expressed “compassion” for people’s physical needs (cf. Matt. 6:8, 32). The MacArthur Study Bible.
- B. The greek word is *splanchnizomai*, translated: to have compassion, feel sympathy, have mercy. God in Christ is moved with compassion and pity to act on behalf of a lost and dying world.

#### **2. \_\_\_\_\_ his provisions in the desolate places (vs. 3-6)**

- A. The Decapolis region was not as heavily populated as Galilee, so there were not many places to go and obtain provisions.
- B. Even though the disciples had already seen Jesus feed the 5000 (Mark 6:30-44), they still questioned his ability to provide for the people.

#### **3. \_\_\_\_\_ the continual overflow Jesus provides (vs. 7-10)**

- A. Not the same baskets mentioned in the feeding of the 5,000 (6:43). Those were small baskets, commonly used by the Jewish people to hold one or two meals when traveling. The word here refers to large baskets (large enough to hold a man, Acts 9:25) The MacArthur Study Bible.
- B. The great surplus (cf. 6:43; John 6:12) underscores the fact that Jesus is capable of providing beyond satisfaction. The ESV Study Bible.