

The Life and Mission of Jesus Christ on Earth

Lesson Twenty-One Matt. 14:1-36; Mark6:14-56; Luke 9:7-17; John 6:1-71

Summary of Lesson

In the previous lesson Jesus had instructed the Twelve and sent them forth to teach the lost sheep of the house of Israel. In this lesson the apostles reported back to Jesus following the accomplishment of that mission, telling Him of John's death and how King Herod had supposed that Jesus was John resurrected from the dead. Upon hearing this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee to a desert place at Bethsaida (northeast corner of the sea), where He fed the multitude of 5,000 men with the five loaves and two small fishes. After this, when Jesus perceived that they were about to seize Him to make Him king, He retired into the mountains alone and sent the Twelve back to Capernaum in a boat. Later that night Jesus, in the midst of a storm, walked to them on the water. The next morning they landed at the Plain of Genesaret where Jesus performed many miracles. Afterwards, they went on to Capernaum where Jesus comes in contact again with the 5,000 He had fed on the other side of the sea, and talked to them about the "Bread of Life." As the result of what Jesus had said, many of His followers deserted Jesus, and, thus, the Galilean ministry is brought to a close.

Matthew 14:1-36

{1} At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus {2} and said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." {3} For Herod had laid hold of John and bound him, and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. {4} Because John had said to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." {5} And although he wanted to put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet. {6} But when Herod's birthday was celebrated, the daughter of Herodias danced before them and pleased Herod. {7} Therefore he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. {8} So she, having been prompted by her mother, said, "Give me John the Baptist's head here on a platter." {9} And the king was sorry; nevertheless, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he commanded it to be given to her. {10} So he sent and had John beheaded in prison. {11} And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. {12} Then his disciples came and took away the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus. {13} When Jesus heard it, He departed from

there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities. {14} And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. {15} When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." {16} But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." {17} And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." {18} He said, "Bring them here to Me." {19} Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. {20} So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. {21} Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. {22} Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while

He sent the multitudes away. {23} And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. {24} But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. {25} Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. {26} And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. {27} But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." {28} And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." {29} So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. {30} But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" {31} And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" {32} And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. {33} Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." {34} When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret. {35} And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick, {36} and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well.

Mark 6:14-56

{14} Now King Herod heard of Him, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." {15} Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or like one of the prophets." {16} But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" {17} For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her. {18} For

John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." {19} Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; {20} for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly. {21} Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. {22} And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you." {23} He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." {24} So she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist!" {25} Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." {26} And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her. {27} Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, {28} brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. {29} When his disciples heard of it, they came and took away his corpse and laid it in a tomb. {30} Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. {31} And He said to them, "Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. {32} So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves. {33} But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him. {34} And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things. {35} When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, "This is a deserted

place, and already the hour is late. {36} "Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat." {37} But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?" {38} But He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they found out they said, "Five, and two fish." {39} Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass. {40} So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. {41} And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all. {42} So they all ate and were filled. {43} And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish. {44} Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men. {45} Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away. {46} And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray. {47} Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land. {48} Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by. {49} And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; {50} for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." {51} Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. {52} For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened. {53} When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret and anchored there. {54} And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, {55} ran through that whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were

sick to wherever they heard He was. {56} Whenever He entered into villages, cities, or in the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.

Luke 9:7-17

{7} Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by Him; and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had risen from the dead, {8} and by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the old prophets had risen again. {9} Herod said, "John I have beheaded, but who is this of whom I hear such things?" So he sought to see Him. {10} And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. {11} But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing. {12} When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." {13} But He said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people." {14} For there were about five thousand men. Then He said to His disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of fifty." {15} And they did so, and made them all sit down. {16} Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude. {17} So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.

John 6:1-71

{1} After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. {2} Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. {3} And

Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. {4} Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. {5} Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" {6} But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. {7} Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." {8} One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, {9} "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" {10} Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. {11} And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. {12} So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." {13} Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. {14} Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world." {15} Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone. {16} Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, {17} got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. {18} Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. {19} So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. {20} But He said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." {21} Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going. {22} On the following day, when the people who were standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, except that one which His disciples

had entered, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with His disciples, but His disciples had gone away alone; {23} however, other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks; {24} when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they also got into boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. {25} And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You come here?" {26} Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. {27} "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him." {28} Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" {29} Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." {30} Therefore they said to Him, "What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do? {31} "Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" {32} Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. {33} "For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." {34} Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always." {35} And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. {36} "But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. {37} "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. {38} "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. {39} "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. {40} "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I

will raise him up at the last day.” {41} The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” {42} And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” {43} Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. {44} “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. {45} “It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. {46} “Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. {47} “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. {48} “I am the bread of life. {49} “Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. {50} “This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. {51} “I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.” {52} The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?” {53} Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. {54} “Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. {55} “For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. {56} “He who eats My

flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. {57} “As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. {58} “This is the bread which came down from heaven; not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” {59} These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. {60} Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?” {61} When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you? {62} “What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? {63} “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. {64} “But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. {65} And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.” {66} From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. {67} Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” {68} But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. {69} “Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” {70} Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” {71} He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.

Questions on Lesson Twenty-one

1. King Herod thought Jesus was John the Baptist. Who did others think He was?
 2. Why did Jesus go up into the mountain?
 3. What was another name for the sea of Galilee?
 4. "Whoever _____ My _____ and drinks My _____ has eternal life, and I will raise him _____ up at the _____."
 5. What did Jesus say one of His disciples was?
 6. What confession did the disciples make after Jesus had walked on the water, entered the boat and stilled the storm?
 7. What was the extent of Herod's offer unto the daughter of Herodias?
 8. What brought about John's death?
 9. With how many loaves and fishes (to begin with) did Jesus feed the multitude?
 10. From whom did the disciples obtain the five loaves and two fishes?
 11. What is the work of God?
 12. Why had Herod not put John to death until he was forced to do so?
 13. After the return from Bethsaida, where on the west side of the sea of Galilee did Jesus and His disciples land?
 14. "Do not _____ for the food which _____, but for the food which _____ to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His _____ on Him."
 15. Why had not the disciples of Christ understood the miracle of the loaves?
 16. What was the result of Jesus' teaching regarding the Bread of Life?
 17. Why did Peter sink when he was walking on the water?
 18. For whom did Herod make a supper on his birthday?
 19. Who was Herodias?
 20. How many fragments remained after the feeding of the five thousand?
 21. Those who met Jesus in the land of Gennesaret after His return from Bethsaida had apparently heard the news of what event?
 22. In what watch did Jesus walk on the water to His disciples?
 23. What Jewish feast was near at hand when Jesus fed the five-Thousand
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