

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



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Mark 6:30-44

Compassion in Calamity (v30-34)

- The Circumstances of Calamity (v30-33)
 - Weary and looking for rest
 - Followed by a hungry crowd (v33)
- Remember to show compassion (v34)
 - Sheep w/o a shepherd
 - Jesus **still working** to teach

Challenging in Crisis (v35-38)

- Challenges of the moment
 - Time- Late (v35a)
 - Place- Desolate (v35b)
 - Price- Expensive (v36a)
 - Resources- Limited (v36b)
- Pressed to have answers (v37)

Consistently Comes Through (v39-44)

- Order cuts through the chaos (v39-40)
- A call to action (v41)
- Trust God with the results
 - An Echo of Elijah, Elisha and Moses from the Old Testament
 - Jesus embodied the nature of Jehovah Jireh, the God who provides
 - All ate, were satisfied and there was overflow (v42-44)
- Feeding the hungry and needy would be a theme in the early church Acts 6:1-7

A Contrast of Kings

- These stories are not chronological but placed as a contrast of each other

	King Herod	King Jesus
People	Nobility and commanders	Hungry and needy
Place	At the palace	In the wilderness
Prompt	Moved by impulse	Moved by compassion
Persuasion	Manipulated by others	Formed others to serve
Product	Gave death and injustice	Gave life and mercy

- “Jesus’ banquet for the rabble of Galilee foreshadows the messianic banquet and contrasts the drunken debauchery of Herod’s feast for the high officials, captains, and leading men of Galilee. Herod’s feast, with its exotic fanfare and dancing girls, cannot ultimately satisfy human hunger. Herod serves up only death, with the head of John the Baptizer brought to him on a platter. His lackeys bind and behead others. Only the spread offered by Jesus in the desert can satisfy human needs. Jesus brings life-giving bread with an abundance of leftovers. His disciples feed and serve others” (David Garland, *Mark*, 254).
- “Welcome to the kingdom of Herod. Mark puts the story of the feeding of the five thousand immediately after the story of another party. Herod holds a birthday banquet for himself to impress his nobles. The climax is an erotic dance by his stepdaughter. Then Herod is manipulated into having John the Baptist murdered. Jesus welcomes everyone to his party. The poor are included. Jesus’s motivation is compassion. He proclaims good news. And the party ends with everyone satisfied. Herod in contrast, only welcomes the in-crowd. The poor are excluded. He is motivated by pride and enslaved by his need to save face. Herod’s party ends in death” (Tim Chester, *A Meal with Jesus*, 60).
- Herod’s kingdom would end, God’s kingdom still reigns and gives life

Conclusion

- Jesus is the fulfillment of Scripture.
- We take part in God’s providential work when we entrust Him with our resources and faithfully minister to both the spiritual and practical and needs of others
- Application: As we pack bags for Fill the Fridge, we actively join in God’s provision, becoming tangible expression of His care for our community.