

Luke 9 pt 2; Vs. 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.

1. In the opening verses of ch. 9, Jesus gave His 12 power and sent them to heal...
2. King Herod hears about Jesus and is puzzled by who He might be

I. **Confusion** / anxiety

II. **Compassion** – on the disciples / on the multitudes

- a. Compassion on the disciples in rest
- b. Compassion on the multitudes in

- i. Teaching
- ii. Healing
- iii. provision

I. Confusion

1. King Herod is the son of Herod the Great
 - a. He ruled over 1/4th of the kingdom his father ruled
2. He hears and asks about Jesus
 - a. His conscience seems to be bothering him about John
 - b. Herod is realizing that killing John did not solve his problem
 - c. The solutions of the dark will only bring more darkness
3. Now his darkness is leading him to anxiety and confusion
 - a. Who is this of whom I hear such things?
 - b. That would seem like a great question and perhaps the Lord should answer
 - i. Some said it's Elijah or one of the old prophets
 - c. The influence of other people's opinion is very strong and worth noting.
 - i. Friends and families opinions of who God is shape our understanding.
 - ii. The media and public opinion also shape our view of God
 - iii. One of the many reasons why Jesus ministered in Israel
 - iv. One of the many reasons why we have 4 gospels

1. To help us understand the heart of God
4. Herod asks about Jesus did and wants to see Him.
5. He was curious about the popular teacher (the One who performs miracles); the One who reminds him of John the Baptist
 - a. The fact that Jesus never responds to Herod reveals where Herod's heart is
 - b. It takes a humble broken heart that is truly seeking God to find Him
6. The Lord meets with those whose hearts are hungry for Him; not the ones looking for entertainment.
7. May God give us wisdom to search for THE Truth about who Jesus is
 - a. and receive it from the main source (bible)
 - b. and have The Holy Spirit confirm it in our hearts.
8. When our minds as believers are bombarded with confusion and anxiety, it will be very difficult to see the Lord
9. God is not the author of confusion (1 Cor 14:33)
10. **Phil 4:6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus
11. **Matthew 11:29** Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
12. **Is 26:3** You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.
13. **Is 30:15** For thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength...

14. The Lord wants to remove the confusion and settles us down as a loving mother settles her crying baby

II. Compassion:

1. Vs. 10 when the Apostles returned, they told Him all they had said and done.
2. Jesus takes them to a quiet place so they can rest.
 - a. Jesus knows our frame and understands that in order to continue this marathon of life, we must have balance
 - b. This is not a new idea
 - c. The Lord introduces the Sabbath to Moses long before
 - d. One man challenged another to an all-day wood chopping contest. The challenger worked very hard, stopping only for a brief lunch break. The other man had a leisurely lunch and took several breaks during the day. At the end of the day, the challenger was surprised and annoyed to find that the other fellow had chopped substantially more wood than he had. "I don't get it," he said. "Every time I checked, you were taking a rest, yet you chopped more wood than I did." "But you didn't notice," said the winning woodsman, "that I was sharpening my ax when I sat down to rest."
3. We need to find rest for our minds, bodies and spirits
 - a. True rest is not just - Not Working
 - b. It's about going to a quiet place to find real rest
 - c. Finding that quiet place with Christ is the only source of true rest and refreshing
4. **Matt 11:28** "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
 - a. Each of us needs to find that quiet place with Jesus

Compassion for the crowds:

1. As the multitudes followed Jesus, The first thing He does is He receives them
2. To receive means to accept
 - a. With all of their frailty and weaknesses, Jesus accepts them
3. Compassion shows mercy, kindness and help for the lost.
 - a. Before teaching & healing, His heart was open and they knew it
 - b. Even little children wanted to be around Jesus
 - c. 'But Lord, you know that none of these will be next to you during the cross'
 - d. 'You know that many are there for what they can get'
 - e. This is the heart of our God, to help the helpless
4. After receiving, He spoke to them about the kingdom of God
 - a. He wants to instruct people about How God's kingdom works
 - b. It's not about doing enough good to please God
 - c. It's about responding to God's call with humility and faith
 - d. God is calling people out of darkness into His light
5. The time is getting late and the disciples want people to leave
6. The Lord says 'You give them something to eat' (v. 13)
7. How can the Lord request something impossible from ordinary men?
8. How is it that our Lord at times speaks what is seems impossible?
 - a. Abraham, I'm making you a father of many nations
 - b. Joseph, I'll make everyone bow down before you
 - c. Moses, take your staff and deliver the children of Israel

- d. Joshua, go conquer Canaan
 - e. Gideon, go deliver Israel
 - f. David, I'm making you king

 - g. **To us:** 'Forgive those who hate you'
 - h. Lend to those who cannot pay you back in return
 - i. Pray for those who spitefully use you
9. Statements that seem impossible
10. **You give them something to eat**
11. Even if the wealthiest among them said he'll pay for the meal, getting the food to the people was beyond their ability.
12. **How many loaves to you have; Go and see**
- a. 5 biscuits and two small fish
 - b. Obviously, this is not enough
13. **"Bring them here to Me"** (Matt 14:18)
14. **Jesus takes the 5 loaves & 2 fish**
- a. There is no way that naturally, this little lunch can satisfy the multitudes or even the 12
 - b. God is able to take little or much and do amazing things
 - c. To teach us to bring Him what we do have because He usually wants us included in the process
 - d. He wants to include us in the miracle
 - e. They brought Him what they had
15. **Moses, what's in your hand?**
- a. I'll use it to deliver Israel
16. **David, what do you have?**
- b. I'll use it to slay the giant

17. **Widow, what do you have?**
 - c. I'll use it to pay off your debts

18. **Make them sit in groups of 50**

19. Sitting is the posture of resting and expecting
 - a. It opens the channel to receive
 - b. I need to posture my heart with a restful expectation

20. As long as Jesus is around, there is nothing to fear

21. **Groups speaks of the community**
 - a. Don't do life by yourself
 - b. Enjoy God's gifts to you with other people
 - c. There is safety in groups
 - d. There is dialogue in groups
 - e. We learn from each other in groups

22. Fifty can be found 154 times in [the Bible](#).

23. Its meaning is directly related to the coming of [God's Holy Spirit](#).

24. As the 120 sat in the upper room (Pentecost = 50 days after the Passover) the Holy Spirit of God filled the believers.

25. It just may be that what is impossible to do in our own strength or resources, God is saying, it's not by might, nor by power but by My Spirit, says the Lord. (Zech 4:6)

26. Then He took the five loaves and two fish and looking up to heaven, he blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude
 - a. How did He do it?
 - b. This is the same One who created the world out of nothing
 - c. Creating fish and bread in the wilderness is no big deal to Him

- d. I bring what little I have to the Master and He'll take care of it
 - i. He takes what I offer
 - ii. He blesses it
 - iii. He breaks (multiplies it)
 - iv. He gives it
27. Jesus had them take up the fragments and they filled 12 baskets of leftovers.
28. from this we learn that Jesus cares about the broken pieces and each is significant
29. We also glean that the baskets were probably what the broken people were brought in and left made whole
- a. The greatest testimony is coming in on a stretcher, meeting with the Lord and leaving completely whole
 - b. Coming in anxious and leaving in peace and rest
 - c. Like the man who picked up his bed and walked as Jesus said to him, take up your bed
 - d. Let the thing that carried you now become the testimony to others
 - e. Let the trouble that the enemy wanted to bring on you for evil be turned for good and the saving of others
30. **What is your need today?**
- d. Not your wants, your needs
 - i. God wants to involve you in the process
 - 1. Bring your requests to God today
 - a. Offer the little you do have
 - b. Obey Him in what He says