

John 6:1-13

¹ After these things Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). ² And a great multitude was following Him, because they were seeing the signs which He was performing on those who were sick. ³ And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. ⁵ Jesus therefore lifting up His eyes, and seeing that a great multitude was coming to Him, * said to Philip, **"Where are we to buy bread, that these may eat?"** ⁶ And this He was saying to test him; for He Himself knew what He was intending to do. ⁷ Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, for everyone to receive 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 fish, but what are these for so many people?" ¹⁰ Jesus said, **"Have the people sit down."** Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. ¹¹ Jesus therefore took the loaves; and having given thanks, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted. ¹² And when they were filled, He * said to His disciples, **"Gather up the leftover fragments that nothing may be lost."** ¹³ And so they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, which were left over by those who had eaten.

Many years ago I was at a church function where everyone was gathering after the service for a time of food and fellowship. Looking at the food on the table and the number of people present; it wasn't too difficult to see that there was not enough food to meet the needs of the people. The pastor's wife told the pastor to order pizza from Domino's to ensure that everyone had enough to eat. I remembered this story and suggested that we simply ask the Lord to bless it as He did here in **John 6**. Most of the people thought I was joking, and I was told I could pray whatever I wanted, but that the pizzas were going to ordered just the same. To be honest, I was stunned. So I asked the Lord to bless the food so much that no one would be hungry enough to eat one slice of pizza. By the time the pastor returned with the pizza, no one was hungry; so he sat and ate them by himself. Why is it that we have no problem believing the stories that we read in the bible, yet we are convinced that they only applied to the days when Jesus walked the earth? Jesus Himself said that we would do greater miracles than He did.

What I would also like to share about this scripture is that the Lord works the same way in our lives as He did with the bread and fish. He blesses, then He breaks, and after that He gives it out. When we recognize the calling or blessings of the Lord on our lives; often we have pictures of grandeur. Yet, it seems that the very next thing the Lord does is take us to a place where we don't want to go, or even to a place that we never dreamed that we would enter. It is there, that the Lord prepares us to be a vessel of honor for Him. Only then, are we able to be given out where we will be a blessing! Beloved, if this describes you or your life; don't fight the process. This life is all about learning to endure. The promises that come to those who do are priceless!! I exhort you to stand, and to fulfill the calling and destiny that our Lord has for your lives! Amen.