

## LESSON 9



## JESUS, MASTER OVER LAWS OF NATURE

*Scripture Text: Mark 6:30-56*

Jesus is the great Supplier with the two necessary qualities—compassion for the needy and abundant resources to supply the needs. We may have compassion but no resources or resources but no desire to give them. But always we can bring our needs to Jesus, knowing He is infinitely able to help. The disciples reported the experiences of their journeys to Jesus. Jesus never excuses sin nor fails to reward righteousness. Each of us will report to Him both what we have done and taught and influenced and what we have failed to do.

**MEMORY VERSE:** *Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God*

*Matthew 14:33*

### Alone With Jesus

**Mark 6:30-31** The apostles gathered themselves together unto Jesus, back from their evangelistic missions. They had many good stories to tell—**what they had done, and . . . taught**, the healings, the conversions, victories over the devil. But as they told them they were surrounded by confusion. Many people were **coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat**. Jesus knew they needed quiet. **Come ye . . . apart . . . and rest**. Jesus always leads His people out of the confusion of the world. The rest was just temporary—a **while**--for there was work to do. They needed to gain physical strength by rest and spiritual strength by quiet meditation and communion with God. So they took a ship to a **desert place**—an uninhabited region such as wilderness. Not a dry, sandy waste as we mean now.

### Jesus Supplies Every Need

**Mark 6:32-38** Seeing Jesus going, many people went and were there to meet Him on arrival. There was no time for rest. The needs of the people so stirred Jesus' compassion that He forgot His own need. He saw their spiritual need. **They were as sheep not having a shepherd**. So He taught them. Late in the day they had a physical need. They had been so interested with spiritual truths that they had stayed away past mealtime. They had brought no food. Jesus supplied that need also. To prove His disciples (John 6:6), to test whether or not they had faith to expect Him to do what they could not, Jesus asked them to feed the multitude. All the food available was **five loaves and two fishes**. He brought before their eyes their inability and His ability. He taught them the difference between the limited power of men and the great unlimited power of God.

### Master of Nature and Physics

**Mark 6:39-45** Jesus is Master of inanimate things. In this lesson we see Jesus exert complete power over volume of food, water, wind, distance, and disease. None but the Creator could have such control over them. He went against the laws of nature. Nature is His creation. First, Jesus established order—**he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass**. Thus none would be missed and confusion would be avoided. Second, He thanked God for the food, **he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves**. John 6:11 reads . . . **when he had given thanks . . .** Third, He used the disciples to pass the food. God uses human tools to pass out the food to others. He wants us to share in the blessing and joy. And fourth, **they did all eat, and were filled**. Jesus takes small things, blesses them

by the Spirit of God, and causes souls to overflow with His Spirit, and go away fully blessed. Five thousand men ate sufficiently. Overwhelmed by the experiences of the day, spiritual and material, the people were reluctant to leave. Jesus had to send them away. While He did so, He sent His disciples ahead by boat **unto Bethsaida**. No matter how little you may have to offer Jesus, bring it to Him and see what great things He can do with it. Here Jesus used His power over volume.

### Jesus Prayed

**Mark 6:46** Jesus went alone **into a mountain to pray**—to commune with His Father. He sought to replenish His spiritual supply. Since Jesus was constantly giving out life from Himself, He must constantly take in life from the Father. To keep it flowing is the secret of keeping it alive, strong, and effective. That is the secret for us also. In prayer Jesus renewed His spiritual strength. In prayer we do the same. Jesus needed to pray. So do we.

### Master of Water and Wind

**Mark 6:47-53** Now Jesus used His power over water. He went in the darkness of the night from the shore out to the boat, **walking upon the sea**. The disciples were frightened, thinking Him a spirit or ghost. He calmed their fears--**it is I; be not afraid**. When we feel all alone and a contrary wind is causing us to toil to make headway, how sweet it is to have Jesus come on board! **And the wind ceased**. Also, John tells us, **immediately the ship was at the land whither they went** (John 6:21). Here Jesus is Master of time and distance. We are not told who all the passengers were, but they **were sore amazed . . . beyond measure**. We are still amazed today at how quickly Jesus can rescue us from stormy conditions. The fact that Jesus is the Son of God was proven to them all by His miracles.

### Healing

**Mark 6:54-56** Coming to Gennesaret, they found the people greatly stirred and receptive to Jesus' presence. Desiring healing for many, they **ran through that whole region . . .** brought the sick **in beds**, and **laid them in the streets** where Jesus was. They had faith that healing would come if they touched Him or even touched **but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole**. Jesus never turns away an honest seeker. God blesses man by giving him good things or by making him holy. Man blesses God by thanking and praising Him. Man blesses man by praying God to bless him.

## JUST A THOUGHT

**If you bestow a gift or favor and expect a return for it,  
it is not a gift but a trade.**

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