

Study of Mark 6
by
Marc Gravelle
marc@bondservantsofyeshua.ca

Mark 6:1-56

1 And He went out from there, and came into his own country; and His disciples followed Him.

Now this appears to be a very simple statement of fact, **BUT** it really is a very profound moment. First, we have to understand who Messiah is, for He is the One that these disciples are following, and, once we understand who He is, **THEN** the message contained in this statement will become very clear. Scripture makes it very clear that Messiah **IS** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, made flesh, and therefore, the profound message contained in this statement **IS**, the Fact that Messiah's disciples were actually following the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, and **IF** they were following the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, then you can be assured that they also **TAUGHT** the Words of the Father's Torah of Life to all of their disciples and followers.

*Verse 2 And when the Shabbat day was come, He began to teach in the **synagogue**: and many hearing Him were **astonished**, saying, From where has this man these things?*

Why do you think the people were astonished at His teaching? First of all, we have to understand that they were in a synagogue, which is a place of worship for the people that follow and practice the man made religion of Judaism, therefore, that means that the people that go to the synagogue are people that were instructed in the man made doctrine of Judaism, their man made oral torah, which differs quite substantially from the Written Words of the Torah that was given to Mosheh by YHVH, and therefore, it means that the people that were **astonished** at the things that Messiah spoke and did, had **NEVER** heard or been taught the Words of **TRUTH**, the Words of the written Torah, as they were given to Mosheh by YHVH, at Mount Sinai, the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life made flesh, that was now standing in front of them and speaking to them.

What did these **astonished** people that were part of the synagogue conclude after they heard Messiah's speak these things, and knew of the miracles that our heavenly Father had done through Him?

*And what **WISDOM** is this which is **GIVEN** unto Him, that even such mighty works are done by His hands?*

What do you think, the people, **NOT** the leadership of the man made religions of the world would say, **IF** Messiah were to appear before them today, and begin healing many many sick people, or feed five thousand people, with only five loaves of bread and two fishes, and then teach them the Words of the written Torah of our heavenly Father, the very same Words that He spoke to Mosheh on the mount? Do you think that many of them would say what **WISDOM** is this, which is **GIVEN** unto Him, that even such mighty works are done by His hands? Or would they be **offended by Him and His Words**, like it says in verse 3

IS NOT THIS the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Judah, and Simon? And are **NOT** His sisters here with us? And they were **OFFENDED** at Him.

*Verse 4 But Yeshua said unto them, A prophet is **NOT** without honour, except in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.*

First of all, Messiah calls Himself a נָבִיא, Naviy, a prophet, one who calls, proclaims, the man who calls or proclaims, which means, that He is telling these people and us, that He is a **SENT ONE**, and as Scripture quite clearly points out, He is **SENT** to us **BY** our heavenly Father. Now, what these people say, **IS** a very very sad statement as far as I am concerned, for Messiah, has been preaching in Jerusalem and many other places for a while, and now, He has returned home to the place where He was raised, and the people there, cannot get over the fact, that He is a mere carpenter, who grew up in their midst, He is a person who has brothers and sisters that are their neighbours, and that they also know His mother, and they are confounded, and ask themselves, **HOW can this ordinary man, have all this knowledge and wisdom**. Therefore, they chose **NOT to believe what He had to say**, because as far as they were concerned He did **NOT** have the right credentials. Now, what happens next is a very profound and an important message for all of us. It says in *verse 5*

*And Messiah **COULD DO NO MIGHTY WORK THERE**, save that He laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.*

Now just take a moment and let those words sink into your consciousness, and understand what Messiah is really telling us here. **IF** a person does **NOT** believe the Words, that He, the Words of the Living Torah is speaking, which are the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, they are the very same Words that were given to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, **THEN** according to the words of these *verses*, Messiah will **NOT** do any mighty works in that person's life, and the mightiest of His works, **IS** that He can give those who believe, follow and obey His Words, **everlasting Life**. Please please undersatnad the seriousness of what is being conveyed to us here, because we are being told by Mesiah Himself, that **IF** a person willingly chooses, **NOT** to believe the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, our Messiah, **THEN** they will **NOT** receive everlasting Life.

*Verse 6 And Messiah **MARVELLED** because of their unbelief.*

This means that Messiah Himself was **astonished** at the fact, that like Nicodemus, the people of His own city, did **NOT** believe Him, even though He was speaking the **TRUTH**, and even though our heavenly Father had done so many miracles through Him in their presence. **BUT**, even though Messiah was very saddened by their unbelief, it did **NOT** stop Him from doing the Work that our heavenly Father sent Him to do, he continued preaching the Words of the Father's Torah of Life to all the other villages, towns and cities.

And He went round about the villages, teaching. 7 And He called unto Himself the twelve, and began to send them forth two by two; and gave them power to rebuke unclean spirits; 8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no script, no bread, no money in their purse: 9 But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats.

Now **why** do you think Messiah instructed His disciples to travel two by two, and that they were not take anything for their journey, no script, no bread, no money in their purse, and they were not even to bring a second coat, for all He instructed them to bring with them, was their staff, and their sandals,

when they went to villages to preach the Gospel, the Words of **TRUTH**, the Words of the Father's Torah of Life?

Messiah wanted His disciples to travel two by two, so that they could encourage each other to **continue** in the face of adversity, which He knew they would encounter, to do the work that they were sent out to do. Furthermore, Messiah gave them these other instructions, because He wanted them to learn to **TRUST** YHVH for all of their needs, because preaching the Gospel throughout Yisrael was new to all of them, and they really needed to learn to **TRUST** YHVH for everything.

Now, **IF** Messiah taught His disciples that they needed to **TRUST** YHVH for everything, then that means that they also taught the people that they spoke to, that they needed to learn to **TRUST** YHVH in every aspect of their lives, also. While that statement rolls off the tongue easily, **IT IS NOT** easy to get to that state of mind, therefore we have to force ourselves on a daily basis to **TRUST** YHVH in every aspect of our own lives, as Messiah and His disciples did and taught us to do. Amein

Verse 10 And He said unto them, In whatever place you enter into a house, there abide till you depart from that place.

I believe that Messiah is telling them not to be double minded, don't jump from house to house, but concentrate and focus on the message that I have given you, that you may speak the Father's Words of redemption onto salvation, to all the people of the towns or villages, that you enter.

*Verse 11 And whosoever **shall NOT receive you, NOR hear you**, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet **for a testimony AGAINST THEM.***

What message is Messiah conveying to His disciples and to us, when He told them, that if the people where you are going, do **NOT** receive nor even hear, shema your Words, then, when you depart from them, shake off the dust from under your feet, **for a testimony AGAINST THEM?**

Scripture makes it very clear, that we are formed from the **dust of the earth**, and therefore, I believe that the hidden message that Messiah is conveying to His Disciples and to us, when I read Messiah's Words here in *Mark 6*, **IS, IF** anyone does **NOT** joyfully receive the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, **IF** they refuse to Shema His Words, **IF** they refuse to hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow and obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, **THEN** they will **NOT** experience everlasting life in the kingdom of Elohim, but they will return to the dust of the earth, from where they were formed in the first place, and be lost forever.

Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Let that sink in for a moment. All of us that meet regularly on Shabbat, live in three different cities, Abbotsford, Langley, Surrey, and the Parashah that I send out every week goes to many other places, in Canada, USA and Europe. Now just imagine, if any of these cities chose **NOT to receive, NOR Shema the Words of the Father's Torah of Life**, then Messiah's statement, that it would be **MORE** tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the days of judgement, than for any of the cities that corporately choose to reject the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, including the cities I mentioned above.

It is important that we understand the implications of Messiah's words, for He is actually saying that YHVH will have *more compassion* on the people of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement, than *He will have for the people of the cities where His message was sent, and consequently refused to be accepted by the people of that city.*

How harshly do you think YHVH will judge the people of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah? Well no matter how harshly Messiah decides to judge those people, He says that the people to whom His message was sent, and that consequently *refused to accept it, will be judged even more harshly.*

Now, it should not be difficult to choose between receiving everlasting Life, for willingly choosing to obey the Words of the Torah of YHVH, or being treated more harshly by YHVH, than the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, on judgement day, **BUT** unfortunately, there are some people that will choose the latter, either out of pride and stubbornness, or out of indifference and unbelief.

Verse 12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

Repent of what? Repent of their Sin, and Scripture makes it very clear in *1John 3:4* that *Sin IS transgressions of the Words of the Father's Torah of Life.*

Verse 13 And they rebuked the devil, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.

In *James 4:7* it says, *Submit yourselves therefore to Elohim. Resist and rebuke the devil, and he will flee from you,* and this is what the disciples were doing, they were rebuking the devil and teaching people how they could also chase the devil away, by willingly choosing to submit themselves to YHVH, resisting the wiles of the devil, and choose to obey all the Words of His Torah of Life.

Verse 14 And king Herod heard of Him; (for His Name was spread abroad:) and he said, That John the Baptist was risen from the dead, and therefore mighty works do show forth themselves in Him.

As you can see, king Herod believed that Messiah was the reincarnated body of John the Emerser, and therefore, he was afraid, because he, Herod, had put John the Emerser to death, simply to fulfill the whim of his wife's daughter, and he felt very guilty about it, and was sure that John had returned to torment him. The mind of man can play all kinds of tricks on them, depending what beliefs they have.

*Verse 15 Others said, That it is Elijah. And others said, That it is a prophet, or as one of the prophets. 16 But when Herod heard thereof, he said, It is John, whom I beheaded: he is risen from the dead. 17 For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. 18 For John had said unto Herod, It is **NOT LAWFUL** for you to have your brother's wife. 19 Therefore, Herodias had a quarrel against him, and would have killed him; **BUT** she could not (because she did **NOT** have the authority): 20 For Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and observed him; and when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly. 21 And when a convenient day was come, that Herod on his birthday made a supper to his lords, high captains, and chief estates of Galilee; 22 And when the daughter of the said Herodias came in, and danced, and pleased Herod and them that sat with him, the king said unto the damsel, Ask of me whatsoever you will, and I will give it to you. 23 And he swore unto her, Whatsoever you shall ask of me, I will give it to you, unto the half of my kingdom. 24 And she went forth, and said unto her mother, What shall I ask? And she said, The head of John the*

*Baptist. 25 And she came in straightway with haste unto the king, and asked, saying, I will that you give me by and by in a charger, the head of John the Baptist. 26 And the king was **exceeding sorry**; **YET** for his oath's sake, and for their sake which sat with him, (to save face, which of course is **PRIDE**) he would **NOT** reject her request. 27 And immediately the king sent an executioner, and commanded John the Emerser's head to be brought: and he went and beheaded him in the prison, 28 And brought his head in a charger, and gave it to the damsel: and the damsel gave it to her mother. 29 And when John the Emerser's disciples heard of it, they came and took up his corpse, and laid it in a tomb.*

Now we have to ask ourselves, what has just transpired here, and what are we to learn from this story of John the Emerser's death?

First of all, it appears that these people believed in reincarnation, since some of them believed that Messiah was Elijah, while others believed that He was the Prophet that was prophesied to come, while others thought that he was just one of the prophets that had been reincarnated. That of course, is a Cabalistic teaching, perpetrated on the people of Yisrael, by the lies of the Rabbis that believed in this kind of nonsense. Please understand, that these Cabalistic teachers actually believe and teach that reincarnation, where the soul never dies, but just comes back, later on, as another being, which is absolutely false.

Therefore, when Herod saw Messiah, He believed that Messiah was a reincarnation of John the Emerser, and he feared him. We are also told, that Herod **KNEW** that John was **a just and holy man**. What do you think Herod meant, by that statement, and why was he afraid of John?

Well, it is indeed evident, by his own words that Herod recognized the fact, that John was a Holy Man, because John was zealously dedicated in his surrendered obedience to the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, and because he led a surrendered Life, YHVH filled him, with His Holy Spirit, and please remember, what it says in *Deuteronomy 28:10* **And all people of the earth SHALL SEE that you are called by the Name of YHVH; and they shall be AFRAID of you.**

Now since Herod believed, and understood, that John was filled with the Holy Spirit of YHVH, and that he had him killed because of a whim of His wife; his mind was filled with guilt for what he had done, because he knew that what he did was wrong, and now, he is very afraid, that John has come back to haunt him, and maybe even kill him. Please understand that Herod was **NOT** possessed by a devil when he had John the Emerser killed, he did that of his own volition, because he was filled with pride and did **NOT** want to lose face in the sight of his people, after making a very stupid promise or pledge to his wife's daughter, nor was he possessed by devils when he chose to believe that Messiah was the reincarnated body of John the Emerser, it was **his own mind** that was playing tricks on him, and therefore, he truly believed that Messiah was John, who had come back from the dead to haunt him and maybe even kill him, and that is why he was so very afraid.

I want you to see and understand, how easily the mind of man can, and often **IS** very strongly influenced when it is filled with guilt, because of the sins that a person has committed. The sinful mind, can and often **does** imagine all kinds of things, and these thoughts, these images, that the mind conjures up, because of guilt, can have a very powerful effect on what a person believes and does, and how other people view what this person is doing. There are hospitals or asylums where people with mental illnesses are housed, and if you ever went to visit any of these facilities, you might come away

from there with the idea that many if not all of these people are somehow possessed, **BUT** you would be wrong, they are simply mentally ill, and for the most part, most of them will never be totally cured of their mental illness. Some might be able to control their illnesses through treatment and or medication, but very few are ever totally cured, nevertheless, I am sure that you will agree with me, when I say, they are **NOT** possessed by devils or demons, they are simply mentally ill.

Verse 30 And the apostles gathered themselves together unto Yeshua, and told Him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught. 31 And He said unto them, Come all of you, into a desert place, and rest a while:

Why did Messiah want them to come with Him, and rest in the desert?

For there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.

This is a good lesson for all people that are in any kind of ministry, because the work that it entails, and the demand that people that they minister to, put on their time, can sometimes be overwhelming, and every one needs a break from the daily pressures that are often put upon them, by the needs of the people that they serve.

Verse 32 And they departed into a desert place by ship privately. 33 And the people saw them departing, and many knew Him, and they ran there, on foot, out of all cities, and outpaced them that were in the ship, and arrived there together, to meet Him.

Now, at this point, they do **NOT** know that they will be fed by Messiah, but the people are very interested and excited in hearing more of what He has to say, and maybe witness or be part of, one of His healing miracles, and therefore, they run to meet Him, and we are told that they actually outpaced Messiah and His disciples, who were on the boat and, that although, they had to travel a much longer distance by land, they arrived at the place where Messiah and His disciples were going, at the same time as Messiah.

*Verse 34 And Yeshua, when He came out, saw many people, and was moved with compassion toward them, **because they were as sheep NOT having a shepherd:** and He began to teach them many things. 35 And when the day was now far spent, His disciples came unto Him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed: 36 Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and **buy themselves bread:** for they have nothing to eat. 37 Messiah answered His disciples and said unto them, You give them something to eat. And His disciples said unto Him, Shall we go and buy two hundred **pennyworth** of bread, and give them to eat?*

(Strong's number G1220 δηνάριον, dēnárion, of Latin origin; a denarius, or ten asses. The word denarius means containing ten, and is translated as a penny, in *Matthew 18:28; 20:2, 9, 13*, it is a Roman silver coin in the **time of** our Saviour and the Apostles, and worth about 15 cents. It took its name from being equal to the price of purchasing ten asses, a number afterwards increased to sixteen. It was the principal silver coin of the Roman commonwealth. This tells us that the disciples, ask Messiah, shall we go and buy the value of two thousand asses to feed these people?)

*Verse 38 He said unto them, How many loaves of bread do you have? go and see. And when they knew, they said, **Five**, and **two** fishes. 39 And Messiah commanded them to make all the people sit*

down by companies upon the green grass. 40 And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds, and by fifties. 41 And when He had taken the **five** loaves and the **two** fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed YHVH, and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and He divided the two fishes among them. 42 And they did **ALL** eat, and were filled. 43 And they took up **twelve** baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes. 44 And they that did eat of the loaves were about **five thousand men**.

Now I want **YOU** to take a moment and try to think of yourself as one of Messiah's disciples, OK, now that you have that picture in your mind, **YOU** have just told Messiah to send the people away so that they can get something to eat from the neighbouring villages, **BUT** Messiah says to **YOU**, they do not need to depart, **YOU FEED THEM**; and **YOUR** answer, **IS** one of disbelief, and **YOU** sarcastically say to Messiah, *Shall we go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?* Then Messiah calmly asks **YOU**, *How many loaves of bread do you have? Go and see. And when YOU knew how many YOU had, YOU said to Messiah, BUT all we have is FIVE loaves of Bread and TWO fishes, and Messiah tells YOU, bring the bread and the fishes here to Me, and then Messiah commanded the people to sit down on the grass.*

As Messiah's disciple **WHAT** would **YOU** say is going through **YOUR** mind at this moment? Is it confusion, is it questioning what He is going to do with **five** loaves of **bread** and **two fishes**?

There is also another question that **WE** have to ask ourselves, why were there **FIVE** loaves of **BREAD**, and **TWO FISHES**? What is the message that YHVH has hidden in these numbers?

Next we are told that Messiah took *the Five loaves, And the two fishes*, And looking up to heaven, he blessed our heavenly Father for these provisions, then, He broke the bread, gave the broken pieces of the bread to **YOU**, and His other disciples, and instructed **YOU** and the other disciples to give what He gave **YOU**, to the multitude.

Now as a disciple of Messiah, **YOU** have seen Him lift the **Bread** up to our heavenly Father, and you heard Him, bless the Father for this provision, and then Messiah gives **YOU**, and the other disciples portions of the broken **bread** and **fishes**, and then, He tells you to feed the masses with it. At this point, what would **YOU** say is going through **YOUR** mind, for all **YOU** actually have, is but a **few morsels of food in a basket**, that **YOU are supposed to give out to feed thousands of people?** It is very important that **WE ALL** understand the mindset of Messiah's disciples, for in actuality, **WE ARE** asked to do the very same thing that Messiah's disciples are doing here, we too, are to bring the Bread of Life to the peoples of the world, that are mired in darkness, and if we do **NOT** believe that it will multiply within a persons heart, **then there really is no point in doing it.**

Now, as **YOU** are giving out this food, portions of the **five** loafs of bread and portions of the **two** fishes, **YOU** start noticing that **YOUR** basket doesn't seem to be running out of morsels of bread nor fishes, for no matter how much you are giving out, the basket that **YOU** are holding, **IS NOT BEING EMPTIED**, it stays full, which makes **YOU** an integral part of a miracle that is taking place right before **YOUR** very eyes; what do **YOU** think that would do to **YOUR** belief that Messiah **IS** indeed the Son of the Most High Elohim?

Next we are told in verse 42 *And they did ALL eat, and were filled. 43 And they took up TWELVE baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes. 44 And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men, beside women and children.*

FIVE loaves of bread and **TWO** fishes fed **FIVE** thousand hungry men plus their wives and children which could easily have been another two to three thousand people.

Do any of you here today, or any of you reading these words, actually understand what has just happened here, can you tell me what message, is contained in this miracle, that YHVH wants us to understand?

Let's go back to the beginning, Messiah instructs His disciple to **NOT** send the people away, but that **YOU** and the other disciples are to feed them, **BUT** all **YOU** and the other disciples have, is **FIVE** loaves of bread and **TWO** fishes, and Messiah tells **YOU**, bring the **FIVE** loaves of bread and the **TWO** fishes to Me, and have the people sit down on the grass. Once Messiah has the **FIVE** loaves of bread and the **TWO** fishes, He gives thanks to our heavenly Father for these provisions, and then He breaks the **Bread** and **Fishes** up into pieces, and gives it to **YOU** and His other disciples to distribute, to the people, which **YOU** did.

The message contained in these words, **IS** that the **FIVE** loaves of Bread represent the Words of the Father's Torah, His Bread of Life, the **TWO** fishes on the other hand represent the Northern kingdom of Yisrael (Ephraim) and the Southern kingdom of Judah, that have been separated for a thousand years, and the number **TWO** is also the number for witness. Furthermore, in Scripture, when people are asked to sit down on the grass, it is a metaphor that indicates, that these people are about to be taught something. Now after these people have been fed the Bread of Messiah, we are told that Messiah instructed them to gather up all the morsels that were left over, so that they could clean up the area and leave it exactly as they found it, and we are told that they gathered **twelve** basket full of morsels.

Here, Messiah is telling You and us, that as His disciples, **IF WE** will learn to give the Bread of Life that He, the Words of the Living Torah gave us, which of course **IS** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, which is represented by the **FIVE** loaves of bread, **IF** we will give that **BREAD** to the people, as a witness of the Love of Elohim, then, they will be nourished and strengthened, and since there were twelve baskets or morsels collected after everyone had eaten, it means that **IF** we obey Messiah, and give out His Bread, the Words of His Torah of Life, exactly as He gave it to **YOU** and us, without adding anything of our own, then **ALL** the **TWELVE** tribes of Yirael will be reunited as one family, the Family of Elohim, and Messiah will triumphantly return as our conquering king.

Verse 45 And straightway He constrained His disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while He sent away the people. 46 And when He had sent them away, He departed into a mountain to pray.

In these two *verses*, we are told that when the people had finished eating, and the disciples had cleaned up, Messiah sent the multitude away, and then He told His disciples to get into the boat and set sail for the **other side**, and then He went up a mountain to pray. **IF** Messiah is supposed to be our example, as all of Scripture tells us He is, **THEN**, let's pay very close attention to His manner, and

mimic what He does. We are told that before Messiah starts anything, He first prays to our heavenly Father, and asks for strength and guidance to fulfill the task at hand, as He did with the feeding of the five thousand men, and after the work is done, Messiah again sets time aside to pray and thank our heavenly Father for the outcome, which means that He is thanking our heavenly Father, that the Father's will was done and **NOT** His own will. Therefore **IF** we want to walk as Messiah walked, then let us learn to pray for guidance and help from YHVH, before we begin our day, or any project, and then let us pray a prayer of thanksgiving when we finish a project and or at the end of our day.

Next we are told that the disciples are out on the sea of Galilee and that they are being tossed around by the stormy waves.

*Verse 47 And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and He was alone on the land. 48 And He **SAW** them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them:*

How was Messiah, who was on the land, in the evening, able to **SEE** that His disciples, who had been on the sea, for all the time that it took Him to go up the mountain to pray, and then come down again and be standing alone on the shore, how was He able to see that His disciples were struggling against the wind on the sea? I believe that the Holy Spirit revealed to Him, what was happening to them.

*And about the fourth watch of the night He came unto them, **walking upon the sea**, and would have passed by them.*

Here we are told that Messiah walked on the water and that He was going to go right by His disciples. Why do you think Messiah wanted to pass by His disciples who were clearly in trouble on the sea? It is because He wanted them to learn to **TRUST** our heavenly Father and **NOT** be afraid every time they encountered some kind of trouble. He wanted them to learn to turn to the Father at all times, in good times and in bad, and make that their default position, as all of us should learn to do.

*Verse 49 But when they saw Him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: 50 For they **all** saw Him, and were troubled. And **immediately** He talked with them, and said unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; do **NOT be afraid**.*

Here we learn that when they saw Messiah walking on the water, they could **NOT** believe their eyes, and therefore they were convinced that it was some kind of spirit. Please remember, that this is just after they have witnessed Messiah, using them, His twelve disciples, **to feed five thousand men, plus women and children, with only five loaves of bread and two fishes**. What does that tell you about the human condition? What we learn from this, **IS** that the heart of man **IS** fickle, and that it needs a lot of constant reminders, or proof, of YHVH's powers, before our hearts can be permanently convinced to **believe** and **trust** Him in every situation. But we, who supposedly know the Scriptures and everything that YHVH has done, should **NOT** need more and more proof, we have all the proof we need right here in front of us, in Scripture, therefore there should be **NO DOUBT** whatsoever in our hearts, and **trusting** our heavenly Father in every situation and circumstance should be **OUR** default position. Amen

*Verse 51 And He went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered. 52 For they **did NOT take into consideration the miracle of the loaves**: for their heart was **hardened**.*

Please understand that this is just hours after the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand was done, that we are told that the hearts of His own disciples were **hardened**.

(Strong's number G4456, πωρόω, pōrōō, pronounced , po-ro'-o, it is apparently from the word πῶρος, pōros, which is a kind of stone; it also means, to petrify, figuratively, it means to render **stupid or callous**, it is translated as, **blind**, 2 times and as, **harden**, 3 times, it is used metaphorically of the heart. It means, **to cover with thick skin, to harden by covering with a callus**, to grow hard, or callous, become dull, lose the power of understanding)

What we have to understand is that **FEAR, IS** what caused Messiah's disciples' hearts to be hardened, it is fear that caused to lose their understanding and become dull, and **IF FEAR** can do that to people who actually walked in the presence of Messiah, and who were taught directly by Him, **THEN, FEAR CAN** and **WILL** cause people to do many stupid and evil things. That is **why, IT IS of paramount importance** that we learn to **TRUST** and **OBEY** our heavenly Father when He tells us **DO NOT FEAR**, because, **IF** we can learn to obey this Command, then our hearts will **NEVER** become dull, and we will **NOT** lose our power of understanding, but instead, **our belief and TRUST in YHVH, WILL SET US FREE.**

Verse 53 And when they had passed over, they came into the land of Gennesaret, and drew to the shore. 54 And when they were come out of the ship, straightway the people of the area knew Him, 55 And the people ran through that whole region round about, and began to carry about in beds those who were sick, where they heard He was.

Why would the people of the area bring their loved ones, who were ill, sick or crippled to Messiah? It is because they have heard that He has healed many other people and they want their loved ones to be healed by Him also. Do you think there were any people that had any doubts about the validity of the reports they had received about Yeshua healing all kinds of people? If there were, people who did **NOT** believe, it would be people that had somehow lost all hope, but one thing that can be said about mankind, they, for the most part, are filled with hope, when it comes to being healed by their god. In the case of Messiah/YHVH, it just so happens to be true, He did and still does heal people.

*Verse 56 And wherever He entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought Him that they might touch if it were but the **border** of His garment: **and as many as TOUCHED Him were made whole.***

What does the border of Messiah's Garment represent? That is where Messiah's Tzitziot, His tassels were placed, the Tzitziot that YHVH has commanded all His children to wear to remind us daily, that we are to believe, follow and obey **ALL** of His Commandments. Therefore this tells us that since Messiah also wore His Tzitziot, that He too was reminded on a daily basis, to **KEEP ALL** the Commandments of our heavenly Father, and the people of Yisrael knew that, and therefore they believed that **IF** this man did indeed Keep **ALL** the Words of the Torah, that He might be the prophesied Messiah, and therefore, they believed that He had the power to heal those that He chose to heal. Amein

*Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.
Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Until we meet again. Amein*