

HOW ARE WE TO MINISTER TO THOSE WHO ARE DIFFERENT THAN US?

**A lesson concerning Christ's great compassion upon anyone who seeks Him
Matthew 15:29-39**

I. SOME PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS concerning the feeding of the 4000:

- A. Is this the same event at the feeding of the 5000? No

- B. Why would these similar, yet separate, events be recorded so closely to one another in the book of Matthew?

II. ALLOW CHRIST'S COMPASSION TO MOVE YOU TO MEET THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF THOSE HE PLACES IN YOUR PATH: Christ's compassion is manifest as He ministers to the spiritual needs of the multitude of Gentiles (29-31)

- A. Great Gentile multitudes bring to Jesus those needing healing and Jesus compassionately heals them (29-30)

- B. The Gentile multitudes marvel and give the God of Israel the glory (31)

III. ALLOW CHRIST'S COMPASSION TO MOVE YOU TO ALSO MEET THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF THOSE HE PLACES IN YOUR PATH: Christ's compassion is manifest to His disciples as He also ministers to the physical needs of the Gentiles who sought Him (32-39)

- A. **Jesus reveals His compassion for the multitudes to His disciples, desiring to take care of their physical need for nourishment (32)**

- B. **Jesus miraculously feeds the crowd while using the disciples their resources (33-39)**
 - 1. The disciples revealed they are slow at learning spiritual lessons as are we (33)

 - 2. Jesus uses what resources they have and multiplies them, having them distribute them (34-36)

 - 3. The result was everyone's physical need for food was abundantly satisfied (37-39)