

LORD OF JEWS AND GENTILES



Lesson 7 for May 14, 2016

Jesus is...

Lord of Jews.

- Feeding the Jews. Matthew 14:1-21.
- Rejected by the Jews. Matthew 15:1-20.

Lord of Gentiles.

- Accepted by the Gentiles. Matthew 15:21-28.
- Feeding the Gentiles. Matthew 15:29-39.

Lord of all creation. Matthew 14:23-33.



FEEDING THE JEWS

**“And they said to Him, ‘We have here only five loaves and two fish.’
[...] So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets
full of the fragments that remained.” (Matthew 14:17, 20)**

After John was beheaded, Jesus lead His disciples through the sea to a lonely place to encourage them.

When they arrived there, many Jews were waiting for them after following them from the coast. Jesus “was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.” (Mat. 14:14).

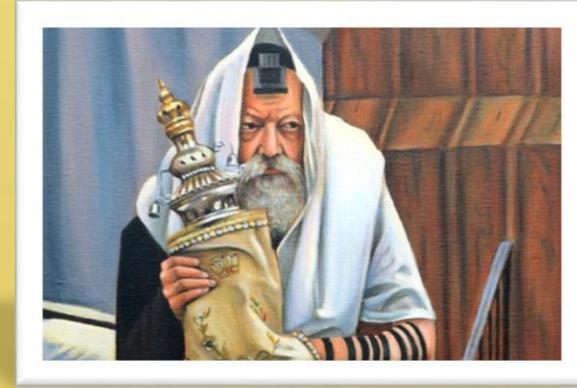
Jesus multiplied breads and fishes to feed that crowd in the evening. According to the Jewish tradition, the Messiah would feed Israel with manna. That miracle strengthened the hope of Jesus being the Messiah.

Even the disciples thought that was the right moment to proclaim Him King of Israel (John 6:14-15).



REJECTED BY THE JEWS

“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” (Matthew 15:8-9)



“Hypocrites!” “They are blind leaders of the blind” (Matthew 15:7, 14). That was Jesus’ answer after being asked “Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?” (Matthew 15:2).

Jesus taught them that their beloved tradition was breaking the Law of God. Moral purity cannot be achieved by washing one’s hands.

They were good hypocrites. They hid their sinful hearts under a behavior full of respect for the tradition of their ancestors.

Jesus wants us to guard against the “leaven of the Pharisees” (Matthew 16:6). Move away from hypocrisy.



ACCEPTED BY THE GENTILES

“And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, ‘Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.’” (Matthew 15:22)



This was Jesus’ answer to that Canaanite woman, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” (Mat. 15:24).

The Gentiles hadn’t received the light that Israel already had. They were considered to be like “little dogs.”

Although the main mission of Jesus at His First Coming was to reach the Jewish nation, nobody is excluded from the work of our Savior.

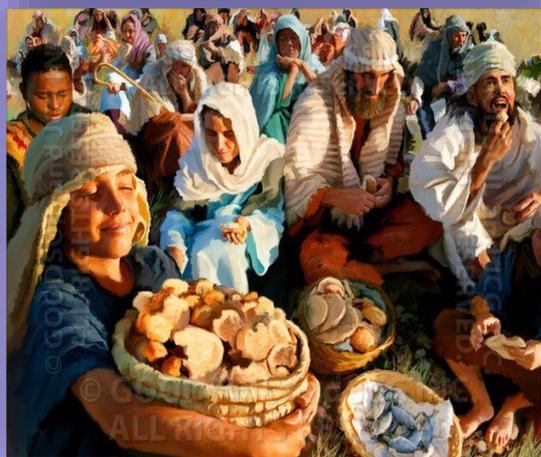
Jesus rewarded the faith of that Gentile woman in “the Son of David” by healing her daughter. He proved that He is Lord of both Jews and Gentiles.



FEEDING THE GENTILES

“Jesus said to them, ‘How many loaves do you have?’ And they said, ‘Seven, and a few little fish.’ [...] So they all ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets full of the fragments that were left.” (Matthew 15:34, 37)

“Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee.” (Mark 7:31). Jesus repeated the multiplication of the breads in a pagan region like He did among the Jews.



	5.000 JEWS	4.000 GENTILES
He had compassion on them	Matthew 14:14	Matthew 15:32
He healed the sick	Matthew 14:14	Matthew 15:30
He multiplied breads and fishes	Matthew 14:19	Matthew 15:36
The disciples helped Him	Matthew 14:19	Matthew 15:36
They gathered the left-overs	Matthew 14:20	Matthew 15:37

“Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also.” (Romans 3:29)



LORD OF ALL CREATION

"But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!'" (Matthew 14:30)



Jesus—the great “I AM”—began to walk on the sea despite the strong wind that frightened Peter (see Job 9:8).

Jesus is the Lord of all creation. He holds it up and it submits to His will (Psalm 104; Hebrews 1:3).

He also cares for every inhabitant of this planet, no matter their race or nationality.



There are many prophecies in the Old Testament that show how God cared about calling the pagan nations to repentance (Isaiah 15-21; Jeremiah 46-51; Ezekiel 25-32; Obadiah; Jonah; Nahum).



“With the great I AM by our side, the burning bush does not burn up, the Bread of Life satisfies all our need, the Light of the world keeps us away from darkness, the Door ensures our entry into the kingdom, the Good Shepherd provides us eternal security, and we are grafted into the true Vine (Exod. 3:2–15; John 6:35; 8:12; 9:5; 10:9, 11; 11:25; 15:1). And Christ says to us as surely as He did to the disciples on that stormy night: ‘Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.’

Walking the path of discipleship without fear requires that the disciple’s eyes be fixed on the I AM. But Peter wavered. His eyes moved from Jesus to the boisterous winds, and ‘he was afraid’ and began to sink.

Nevertheless, Peter cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’ Such a cry never goes unanswered.”