



# The Trumpet Call

---

Messages and Reports

March – April 2013

Evangelist Edgar Martin

---

## The Battle for Faith

**“For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened.”—  
Mark 6:52.**

The disciples were in a storm on the sea. Jesus came walking on the water and calmed the sea. The disciples were amazed and astounded. The explanation for their amazement was that “they considered not the miracle of the loaves.” So here we are on the sea, struggling against wind and wave, the Lord walks across the water, hops into the boat, calms the sea and suddenly we’re talking about lunch.

Walking on water and calming the ocean seems to be enough to contemplate, and yet, he said that if they had appreciated the food miracle, they would not have been surprised at the storm miracle.

The miracle of the loaves was a miracle that you could touch, see, smell, and taste. Luke wrote: “And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets” (9:17). That was one basket for each disciple. Each of them got to hold a miracle in their hands. Each of them felt the weight of it and could easily see that their basket alone held more than the boy’s lunch. It was real, documented, scientific, touch it, see it, feel it, taste it proof of Christ’s divine power.

This was not the first time that God had multiplied loaves. In 2 Kings 4:42-44 we see Elisha with the School of the Prophets. “And there came a man from Baalshalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people that they may eat. And his servitor said, what, should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people that they may eat: for **thus saith the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof.** So he set it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the LORD.”

Maybe the disciples were so busy waiting tables and policing the area that they didn’t have time to reflect upon the spiritual implications. I have often thought that it was probably a lot of work to cart all that food around and distribute it to so many people and then to gather up all the scraps. It would be like cleaning a football stadium after a game. Whew! What a job! And why police the area at all? Loaves and fishes are biodegradable. They could have left the fragments and they would have enriched the ground. I think Jesus wanted the disciples to hold that miracle in their hands, to feel the weight of it, to think about the one small sack of food from whence came 12 baskets full.

Then there were the multitudes who followed Christ, not to hear His words; but because they ate of the loaves and fishes and were filled. Loaves and fishes was a common meal for these people. They probably had loaves for breakfast, fishes for lunch and loaves and fishes for supper. Why would they leave their homes and their business to traipse around the countryside just for another free meal? I think it was probably the best meal they had ever had. The bread was the tastiest and the fish the most succulent of any they had ever eaten. They wanted more and they didn't realize it was because it was heavenly. Also, the Bible says they ate until they were filled; some even translate that as "gorged". Evidently, it was so good, so delicious that they couldn't get enough of it. Perhaps they seldom enjoyed such a quantity of food. Maybe Mom dealt out portions and when it was gone, it was gone. But still, they only enjoyed the earthly benefit of the miracle and did not consider the spiritual side.

Are you trusting for a miracle? Have you considered the miracle of the loaves? Do we consider the greatness of God, His creative power, His love for people and His compassion on the ordinary man? Perhaps the greatest miracle of all is that He knows us and yet He loves us still.