

John 6:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

Analysis

'There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?' Andrew identifies a resource—a boy's lunch. Barley bread was poor people's food; the fish were small, probably pickled. The resource is meager, the need massive. Andrew's question expresses doubt yet still reports availability. This meal represents all we can offer Christ—insufficient by human measure, yet He transforms it.

Historical Context

The boy's willingness to offer his lunch is often overlooked. He could have hidden it or eaten it himself. Instead, this unnamed child contributed what became the material for a miracle. Small offerings, willingly given, become vehicles of divine abundance.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does the boy's willingness to give his lunch teach about offering what we have?
2. How does God use insufficient resources to demonstrate His sufficiency?

Interlinear Text

ἐστιν παιδάριον ἐν ὅδε ὃ ἔχει πέντε ἄρτους

There is **lad** **a** **here** **which** **hath** **five** **loaves**
G2076 G3808 G1520 G5602 G3739 G2192 G4002 G740

κριθίνους καὶ δύο ὄψαρια· ἀλλὰ ταῦτα τί ἐστιν

barley **and** **two** **small fishes** **but** **they** **what** **There is**
G2916 G2532 G1417 G3795 G235 G5023 G5101 G2076

εἰς τοσούτους

among **so many**
G1519 G5118

Additional Cross-References

Luke 9:13 (Parallel theme): But he said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they said, We have no more but five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy meat for all this people.

Mark 6:38 (Parallel theme): He saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes.

Matthew 14:17 (Parallel theme): And they say unto him, We have here but five loaves, and two fishes.

Psalms 78:19 (Parallel theme): Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

Psalms 147:14 (Parallel theme): He maketh peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.

Psalms 81:16 (Parallel theme): He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

Mark 8:19 (Parallel theme): When I brake the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? They say unto him, Twelve.

Matthew 16:9 (Parallel theme): Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?

2 Corinthians 8:9 (Parallel theme): For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Deuteronomy 8:8 (Parallel theme): A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;