

# Mark 6:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes.

## Analysis

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### **And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes.**

Twelve baskets of leftovers exceeded the original five loaves exponentially. Jewish custom prohibited waste, so fragments were gathered. The twelve baskets (one per apostle) demonstrated that serving Christ's provision leaves servants abundantly supplied. Those who distribute divine grace discover inexhaustible resources.

## Historical Context

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The κόφινοι (kophinoi, wicker baskets) Jews used for provisions were distinct from large fish baskets. Twelve corresponded to twelve apostles and Israel's twelve tribes. The gathering followed halakhic practice against food waste. Archaeological evidence shows such baskets were common traveling equipment.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. What does this verse teach about Christ's nature and work?

2. How should this truth shape our daily discipleship?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ ἤραν κλασμάτων δώδεκα κοφίνους πληρεῖς, καὶ  
And they took up of the fragments twelve baskets full And  
G2532 G142 G2801 G1427 G2894 G4134 G2532

ἀπὸ τῶν ἰχθύων  
of the fishes  
G575 G3588 G2486

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