

Matthew 14:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

Analysis

The result—'they did all eat, and were filled'—emphasizes abundance: not merely satisfied but filled to satiety. The phrase 'they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full' demonstrates surplus exceeding the original supply. Twelve baskets (one per disciple?) showed God's provision exceeds need. This abundance contrasts with the disciples' worry about scarcity, demonstrating God's generosity when we trust Him with inadequate resources.

Historical Context

The word 'baskets' (Greek: kophinos) refers to small wicker baskets Jews used for carrying provisions, distinguishing this miracle from the feeding of 4000 (different Greek word). The careful collection of leftovers shows proper stewardship despite miraculous provision. The twelve baskets may symbolize provision for the twelve tribes of Israel.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does God's abundant provision challenge your scarcity mindset?
2. What 'fragments' in your life testify to God's surplus blessing?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἔφαγον	πάντες	καὶ	ἐχορτάσθησαν	καὶ	ἔϋραν	τὸ
And	eat	all	And	were filled	And	they took up	G3588
G2532	G5315	G3956	G2532	G5526	G2532	G142	
περισσεῦον	τῶν	κλασμάτων	δώδεκα	κοφίνους	πλήρεις		
that remained	G3588	of the fragments	twelve	baskets	full		
G4052		G2801	G1427	G2894	G4134		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 16:8 (Parallel theme): And Moses said, This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.

Exodus 16:12 (Parallel theme): I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God.

Luke 1:53 (Parallel theme): He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

Luke 9:17 (Parallel theme): And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.

Leviticus 26:26 (Parallel theme): And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied.