**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW**

**LESSON 14 - The Compassionate King Tries to Withdraw**

**Matthew 14:1-37**

**DAYS ONE & TWO -** Read Matthew 14:1-13 (The Murder of John the Baptist)

1. a. Who had *heard the report about Jesus* and thought He was John the Baptist, risen from the dead, because he had *these powers at work in him*?

*Answer here*

 b. What does Luke 9:7-8 add about why this rulermight have thought John the Baptist had risen from the grave?

*Answer here*

2. a. As the murder of John the Baptist is recounted here, why had Herod *laid hold of John, and bound him, and put him in prison* according to Matthew 14:3?

*Answer here*

 b. How did Matthew refer to Herodias in this verse 3?

*Answer here*

**EXTRA INFO:** This Herod was Antipas, ruler of Galilee at this time. He was one of the sons of Herod the Great. After their father’s death the Holy Land was divided into 3 areas ruled by 3 of these sons. In Galilee this Herod was known by the title “King.” See verse 9. Now, Herodias was the daughter of another son of Herod, so when she married Philip, she was marrying her own father’s brother, or her uncle. Then Antipas talked Herodias into leaving her husband who was his half-brother. Both marriages were unlawful and incestuous.

3. Why had John the Baptist said it was not lawful for Herod Antipas to have Herodias according to Leviticus 18:16 and 20:21?

*Answer here*

4. Why hadn’t Antipas put John to death right away according to Matthew 14:5?

*Answer here*

5. How did the daughter of Herodias and Philip please Herod Antipas on his birthday, and what did this lead to in verses 6-7?

*Answer here*

6. As the daughter of Herodias was prompted by her mother, what did she ask for?

*Answer here*

 7. As Herod Antipas seemed to be conflicted about what he had promised to do in verse 9, what was the horrible result of this man’s cowardice in verses 10-11?

*Answer here*

8. a. What happened after John was beheaded in Matthew 14:12?

*Answer here*

 b. What also happened according to Luke 9:9, after John was murdered?

*Answer here*

9. What happened *when Jesus heard* the news of John’s death in Matthew 14:13?

*Answer here*

10. What happened when Herod actually saw Jesus for the first time in Luke 23:8-11?

*Answer here*

**DAY THREE -** Read Matthew 14:14-21 (The Miraculous Feeding of the 5,000)

1. When Jesus wanted to be alone to grieve John’s death, what *moved Him,* in verse 14, to heal the sick when the multitudes *followed Him on foot from the cities* to that deserted place?

*Answer here*

2. a. What did the disciples want Jesus to do *when evening came, and the hour was late* in verse 15?

*Answer here*

 b. *But* what did Jesus say to them?

*Answer here*

 c. How did they respond?

*Answer here*

3. What happened after Jesus told them to bring what they had to Him in verse 19?

*Answer here*

4. How does verse 20 describe the miracle, by His power, that had just taken place?

*Answer here*

5. How many were fed, according to verse 21, making this miracle even more incredible?

*Answer here*

**DAYS FOUR AND FIVE -** Read Matthew 14:22-36 (More Displays of Jesus’ Miraculous Power)

1. What did Jesus do *immediately* concerning his disciples in verse 22?

*Answer here*

2. Where did Jesus go after sending the multitudes away, and why did He do it?

*Answer here*

3. What happened to the boat, that the disciples were in, *when evening came*?

*Answer here*

4. Describe what happened in the *fourth watch* (3:00-6:00 am) in verse 25.

*Answer here*

5. How did the disciples react when they *saw* Jesus *walking on the sea*?

*Answer here*

6. How did He immediately reassure them in verse 27?

*Answer here*

7. Describe the incident with Peter, when he also wanted to walk on the water, in verses 28-29.

*Answer here*

8. a. What happened when Peter started *looking around* instead of keeping his eyes on Jesus?

*Answer here*

 b. What did Jesus say was the reason for Peter’s fear in verse 31?

*Answer here*

 c. *When* Jesus and Peter *got into the boat and the winds ceased*, what incredible words came from the disciples, about Jesus, when they *came and worshiped Him* in verse 33?

*Answer here*

9. Then what happened *when they had crossed over to the land of Gennesaret* in verse 35?

Answer here

10. What was the only thing those who were sick had to do in order to be *made perfectly well*?

*Answer here*

**DISCUSSION:** As the multitudes followed Jesus everywhere He went, we saw His compassion on display this week in spite of how tired His earthly body had to have been. How are we as believers today to, also, show compassion to those around us, according to 1 Peter 3:8-9?

*Answer here*