

## MEADOWBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship This Sunday

August 29, 2021 ~ 9:00 AM

In our Sanctuary (masks are optional)

or

Outside Parking Area

Services on YouTube

meadowbrookbaptist.cc

August 22, 2021

Worship Attendance 43      World Hunger \$22.33

Budget Offering \$3,089.65

Weekly Needs to Date \$90,100.00

Weekly Offerings to Date \$94,163.65

The Gospel of Mark

Mark 6:30-56

(John 6)

### THE BREAD NOBODY WANTED

At the Passover that ended Jesus' first year of ministry, the religious leaders rejected Him as the Jewish Messiah and began plotting His death. Now, a year later, as His second year was closing, millions of people from all over the world traveling through Galilee to Passover also rejected Him. Their attitude reflected that of the Jewish people. His nation rejected Him. It was a time of sadness for Jesus. The news of John the baptizer's horrible death must have stunned Him. There is little doubt that they had known each other since they were boys, because their mothers were related and had both been visited by angels. Understandably, He wanted some time away from the crowds to grieve.

That would be difficult. This huge crowd of pilgrims and Galileans were pushing and shoving Him and the Twelve so much, that they couldn't find time to eat. There were some sick people among them; but this group, hearing about His miracles, had the hope that He was their long-awaited Messiah-King. They wanted Him to conquer Rome and all Gentile nations, and set up the Jewish kingdom of peace and prosperity on earth (Psalm 72 / Amos 9).

Their rejection, reflecting the attitude of the nation, meant from now on His church would be God's people. This was sealed forty years after this when Jerusalem, the temple and the Jewish nation would be destroyed and its people dispersed all over the world, as Amos 9 predicted.

In the tragedy, there is a little humor. The crowd swelled to around 8,000 people (5,000 men plus their families) and they looked like a swarm of bees chasing a honey wagon. Jesus crossed the lake in a boat, to rest awhile; but rest was not to be. The huge crowd ran the ten miles around the northern shore and met Him. People from all the villages who saw them joined them. Undisturbed by this, He healed any sick that were there and preached repentance, faith and the kingdom.

He made his way north to a lonely, out-of-the-way place and they followed Him. Here He fed the entire crowd with five pieces of bread and two dried fish, a little boy gave Him. These people were not starving. There were towns nearby. Jesus showed them and the nation, that He and God were one and the same. Passover celebrated God delivering Israel from Egypt (Exodus 12-15) after which He fed them manna from heaven for forty years. Jesus' food miracle had to make them think of that.

They got the message, but they didn't get it right. They were in a frenzy and were about to crown Him king, even if they had to force Him. Jesus made the disciples get in a boat and leave, and then He went to a high hill to be alone and pray. He saw His disciples that night rowing against a strong wind and walked on the water to them and stopped the wind. Just as God, through Moses, controlled nature by parting the Red Sea with a "strong east wind" (Exodus 14:21); God, through Jesus, controlled this strong wind.

The next morning, the crowd realized He was gone; and like a swarm of bees, they hurried on