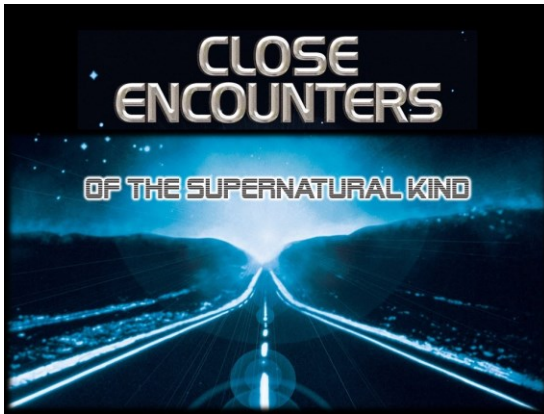


Close Encounters of the Supernatural Kind

Part 7: More than Five Thousand Fed



*Dr. Jeff King
Christ Lutheran Church
Southwick, Massachusetts*

More than Five Thousand Fed

An eyewitness account ...

As soon as Jesus heard the news, He went off by Himself in a boat to a remote area to be alone. But the crowds heard where He was headed and followed by land from many villages. A vast crowd was there as He stepped from the boat, and He had compassion on them and healed their sick.

That evening the disciples came to Him and said, "This is a desolate place, and it is getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus replied, "That isn't necessary – you feed them."

"Impossible!" they exclaimed. "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish!"

"Bring them here," He said. Then He told the people to sit down on the grass. And He looked toward heaven, and asked God's blessing on the food. Breaking the loaves into pieces, He gave some of the bread and fish to each disciple, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they picked up twelve baskets of leftovers. About five thousand men had eaten from those five loaves, in addition to all the women and children! (*Matthew 14:13-21*)

Key Discoveries

1. You _____ to Jesus.

"A vast crowd was there as He stepped from the boat, and He had compassion on them and healed their sick." (Verse 8)

2. He is not only _____, He is _____.

"They all ate as much as they wanted, and they picked up twelve baskets full of leftovers. About five-thousand men had eaten from those five loaves, in addition to all the women and children!" (Verses 20-21)

3. We _____ *in the multiplication.*

"That evening the disciples came to Him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and it is getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus replied, 'That isn't necessary – you feed them.'" (Verses 15-16)