

The Gospel of Luke

The Fallout After the Feeding

Luke 9:12-17; John 6:14-66

1. **Jesus Ministers to the People** (Luke 9:12-17)

At least five thousand men, and likely more women and children, followed the apostles to Jesus after they had crossed the land preaching repentance and performing miracles (cf. Mark 6:12-13). Jesus received them and taught them about the kingdom of God while healing all those in need (cf. Luke 9:11). Later that day Jesus miraculously provided an over-abundance of food to feed all of the people and have much left over (v.17).

2. **The Reaction of the People** (John 6:14-15)

The crowd understood the connection between what Jesus had done with what God had done through Moses in the wilderness (cf. v.31), and so they correctly identified that Jesus was the long expected prophet (Deut 18:15). Their desire was to make Him king.

3. **The Motive of the People** (John 6:26)

Jesus is the rightful king of Israel (Matt 1:1-16) and He will rule and reign over Israel and all nations (Matt 28:18; Phil 2:9-11), but Jesus was unwilling to be crowned by these people at this time. They did not want Jesus as Savior and Lord; they wanted Him as a political potentate and a social solution.

4. **The Message of Jesus** (John 6:27, 35-40)

The focal point of Jesus ministry was preaching the gospel so that all who believe will have eternal life (Luke 4:43; John 6:40).

5. **The Response of the People**

The response of the people to Jesus was a consistent mixture of a desire for more miracles, misunderstanding His meaning, and disbelief in what He said.

A. "Give us a Sign" (John 6:30-31)

B. "Give us this Bread Always" (John 6:34)

C. "You Can't Have Come Down from Heaven" (John 6:41-43)

D. "This Doesn't Make Sense" (John 6:52)

6. **The Response of Many Disciples** (John 6:60-66)

Unlike the crowd, the disciples understood Jesus' message but found it difficult to believe. The result of this clearer understanding was that many stopped being a disciple of Jesus.