

Bread, Fish, Water, and Hope!

Many of the events in the life of the one true Son of God/Man, still persist, even among those who don't belong to any Church.

The feeding of thousands of hungry people, and his walking across the lake, are among said events. Our Gospel theme this week recalls these two events. It is no coincidence that when organising his Gospel John puts these two stories side by side. Jesus was widely known as a healer of both physical and mental ailments, but John wants his readers to comprehend that his powers go beyond this. He is master over nature itself. This was not to boast about such things. Jesus was very careful that people should not crave dramatic miracles. His coming among us awhile was to demonstrate the very character of the Almighty, and to push ajar a door into God's presence, that no one else could open. The miracles were about demonstrating just who he was. To help people pay attention to the message of love and hope that he had come to bring. That suffering and hunger was alleviated, for those fortunate enough to be present, was a bonus for the lucky few.



Miracles in answer to prayer are far more limited and rarer in our own day (but some are still reported and tested). However, answers to prayer can be amazing without being miraculous, but that's for another days discussion. For now we just acknowledge a challenge and celebrate an eternal truth. A challenge to keep taking seriously that there are many who go hungry. Shamefully there are some in our own land, and still many more around the globe. Let us not tire of doing what we can. And worth celebrating that the God we honour, and who receives our prayer, is the Lord of Heaven and Earth. Nothing lies beyond *his* loving view.

Makes you feel as though you could walk on water doesn't it?