



God's Word For Today

Friday, April 19, 2013

Matthew 15:30-32

COMPASSION

The word "Compassion" is in 39 verses of our Bibles, and of those 39 verses, 20 of them are in the New Testament. The word "Compassion" is defined in the Bible as:

— to have the *bowels* yearn, that is, (figuratively) *feel sympathy*, to *pity*: - have (be moved with) compassion.

This is the meaning for the word "Compassion", that our Lord Jesus used in:

Matthew 15:30-32 KJV And great multitudes came unto him, having with them *those that were* lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: (31) Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel. (32) Then Jesus called his disciples *unto him*, and said, *I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.*

When we come to the places, in our New Testament, that talks about our use of compassion, there are (4) four places:

Hebrews 10:34 KJV For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

1 Peter 3:8 KJV Finally, be ye all of one mind, **having compassion** one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

1 John 3:17 KJV But **whoso hath** this world's good, **and seeth** his brother have need, **and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him**, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

Jude 1:21-23 KJV Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. (22) **And of some have compassion**, making a difference: (23) And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Compassion is a part of the key to being like Jesus. Compassion is our heart speaking, not our heads. Someone has said, "can't you have a heart"? Really they were saying, "Don't you even care"? Compassion is a type of caring that steps out way beyond our logical reasoning. If we look at what we have, or stop to think, I can't afford that, then Compassion has no place to manifest itself in our lives. Our main text today was **Matthew 15:30-32 KJV**, but this is only part of the story:

Matthew 15:32-37 KJV Then Jesus called his disciples *unto him*, and said, **I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.** (33) And his disciples say unto him, **Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?** (34) And Jesus saith unto them, **How many loaves have ye?** And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes. (35) And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. (36) And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake *them*, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. (37) And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken *meat* that was left seven baskets full.

If Jesus had been logical, He would have surely known that (7) loaves of bread and a (2) few little fishes would not have satisfied the hunger of so many people. If so, then there would have been no place for a miracle? **Our logical minds, often limit the miracle working power of the God** that we say we believe in. We are sometimes asked, do you believe that God can do this miracle or that miracle? Our answer has been (shamefully) yes He can do miracles, but maybe not for me! Listen to this Scripture:

Hebrews 13:8 KJV Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Acts 10:34-35 KJV Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: (35) But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

What God did for someone else He can do for you!