

## The Life of Jesus Christ

### Lesson 11 – In Galilee And Beyond

May 13, 2020

#### The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 15:39-16:12; Mark 8:10-26

**Peter's Confession**  
Matthew 16:13-16; Mark 8:27-29; Luke 9:18-20

### The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 15:39-16:12; Mark 8:10-26

Jesus' warning to His disciples when they came to Him without any bread:

*"Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."* (16:6)

- *"Watch out"* – "properly, to stare at ... to discern clearly (physically or mentally)" <sup>(Strong)</sup>
- *"Beware"* – "to turn one's mind or attention to a thing by being on one's guard against it" (Vine) (cf. Matthew 7:15; 2 Peter 1:19; 1 Timothy 1:4; 4:13)

They respond carnally thinking Jesus said that *"because we did not eat any bread?"* (16:7)

### The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 15:39-16:12; Mark 8:10-26

Jesus' rebuke to His disciples when they thought He spoke of their lack of bread:

*"You men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread? Do you yet not understand or remember ..."* (16:8-9; cf. 6:30; 8:26; 14:31)

1. The feeding of the 5000 and *"how many baskets full you picked up?"* (16:9)
2. The feeding of the 4000 and *"how many large baskets full you picked up?"* (16:10)

### The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 15:39-16:12; Mark 8:10-26

What should they (we) have learned from these miracles that they, by faith, should have applied here?

What was lacking in their faith?

Where was their focus? (Matthew 6:19-24)

*"How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."* (16:11)

A lack of understanding often caused by a fleshly mindset! (1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3)

### The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 15:39-16:12; Mark 8:10-26

*"Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart? 'HAVING EYES, DO YOU NOT SEE?' AND 'HAVING EARS, DO YOU NOT HEAR?'" And do you not remember ...?"* (Mark 8:17-18)

We need:

1. **Understanding.** (Colossians 1:9; Mark 12:33; Luke 24:45; Acts 7:25)
2. **A tender heart.** (Mark 6:52; 2 Chronicles 34:27)
3. **Spiritual vision and hearing.** (Revelation 2:7)
4. **Remembering God's provisions.** (Luke 22:35; Romans 8:31-32)

### The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 15:39-16:12; Mark 8:10-26

*"... beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."* (16:11)

Leaven represents the **influence** of the **teaching** and **hypocritical conduct** of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

*"A little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough."* (1 Corinthians 5:6; Galatians 5:9)

What are the characteristics of leaven that we need to be cautious of?

Need for self examination: (2 Corinthians 13:5)

- Who is influencing you?
- How are you being influenced?