

Lent Day 23
Monday March 7, 2016

Reading: Mark 8.1-13

Reflection

Have you ever heard someone say they don't have a good testimony? What they mean is that they weren't a murderer or shooting heroin in their eyes at the age of eight. It's amazing how quickly we get used to God's miraculous provision. Everyone has a good testimony.

Many people when reading this second account of Jesus feeding a crowd, 4,000 vs 5,000 this time, tend to skip over it. Jesus already did this. It's redundant. Why would Mark bother to put it in? It's actually the fact that Mark put in a second feeding miracle that makes this so important. Mark didn't have a word processor or even a 'Staples' where he could pick up reams of paper and extra pens. Mark has a limited space and has to be selective about his material, so the fact that he includes this means it's important.

We take God for granted. Every morning the sun rises and so do we and instead of breaking into praise for another day of life we stumble into the bathroom and start our day like nothing new is happening. Everything in our lives is a gift from God but it never occurs to us because it's just become the routine. I love Chesterton who makes the point that just because it always has, doesn't mean it always will. All that we have is gift and we ought to be overwhelmed by it. There is no bad testimony. The creator of the universe chose you for his own - that's amazing! Give thanks!

Prayer

Giver and sustainer of life, thank you for your gift of everything. Produce in us grateful hearts which praise you at all times. Amen.