

Basket Case Provision

[Mar 6:31-44 NASB]

[Mar 8:1-9 NASB]

[Mar 8:17-21 NASB95] 17 And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you discuss [the fact] that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart? 18 "HAVING EYES, DO YOU NOT SEE? AND HAVING EARS, DO YOU NOT HEAR? And do you not remember, 19 when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces you picked up?" They said to Him, "Twelve." 20 "When [I broke] the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?" And they said to Him, "Seven." 21 And He was saying to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

- A Basket case is a reference to someone who is experiencing mental emotional disorder.
- Finances can cause us to act like a basket case.
- God wants to bring peace to us by reminding us that He will provide. We do not have to lose our mind over getting our needs met.

What can I learn from the stories of the loaves and fishes that will help bring confidence that God will provide for me?

There are six lessons we can learn from the stories of the loaves and the fishes that will bring confidence that God will provide for us.

I. Divine provision is the nature of God.

- A. [Jhn 14:6-9 NASB] 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. 7 "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him." 8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and [yet] you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how [can] you say, 'Show us the Father'?"
- B. [Gen 22:14 NASB] 14 Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided."
- C. [Rom 8:32 NASB] 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?
- D. Believe that God will take of you... all that concerns you.

II. Divine provision helps us understand other spiritual laws.

- A. [Mar 8:16-21 NASB] 16 They [began] to discuss with one another [the fact] that they had no bread. 17 And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you discuss [the fact] that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart? 18 "HAVING EYES, DO YOU NOT SEE? AND HAVING EARS, DO YOU NOT HEAR? And do you not remember, 19 when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces you picked up?" They said to Him, "Twelve." 20 "When [I broke] the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?" And they said to Him, "Seven." 21 And He was saying to them, "Do you not yet understand?"
- B. [Heb 6:1-3 NASB] 1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead

Basket Case Provision

works and of faith toward God, 2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. 3 And this we will do, if God permits.

C. Growing in your faith for provision mirrors how you will grow in faith in other areas.

III. Divine provision requires faith.

- A. Mark 6:37 But He answered them, "You give them [something] to eat!" And they said to Him, "Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them [something] to eat?"
- B. [Mar 8:1-5 NASB] 1 In those days, when there was again a large crowd and they had nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples and said to them, 2 "I feel compassion for the people because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat. 3 "If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way; and some of them have come from a great distance." 4 And His disciples answered Him, "Where will anyone be able [to find enough] bread here in [this] desolate place to satisfy these people?" 5 And He was asking them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven."
- C. You will not always know when it will happen.
- D. Don't overlook supernatural provision. Basket blessings and lump sum blessings.
- E. Kenneth Hagin Jr. plane story. Always had the payment money.
- F. [Heb 11:6 NASB] 6 And without faith it is impossible to please [Him,] for he who comes to God must believe that He is and [that] He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

IV. Divine provision will involve using wisdom.

- a. Jesus did not let any of the leftovers go to waste.
- b. Joseph was shown by God to save 20% (1/5th) a year to prepare for the famine. Genesis 47:26.
- c. Proverbs does not speak well of lazy people. NT says, [2Th 3:10 NASB95] 10 For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.
- d. Debt is discouraged. It is not a sin, though. Borrowing is not God's best. Should be avoided. Yet sometimes debit is an acceptable option.
- e. Proper management of resources is taught. Luke 14:28.

V. Divine provision requires giving.

- A. They (the disciples) were hungry too. What if they gave all the food away and no was left for themselves? This was an act of giving on their part too.
- B. [Phl 4:15-19 NASB] 15 You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone; 16 for even in Thessalonica you sent [a gift] more than once for my needs. 17 Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. 18 But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. 19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
- C. [2Co 9:8 NASB] 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;
- D. [Mar 10:29-30 NASB] 29 Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My

Basket Case Provision

sake and for the gospel's sake, 30 but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life.

- E. Tithing story. After not tithing for several years, started tithing and went from owing \$16k to getting \$4k.
- F. Your seed (giving time, talent, treasure) will lead.

VI. Divine provision ends with material abundance.

- A. The end of each occurrence of the abundance came.
 - B. Paul – Philippians
 - C. 2 Corinthians 9:8
 - D. [3Jo 1:2 NASB] 2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.
 - E. Money, materials, methods.
 - F. Expect abundance.
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- [Psa 118:25 NASB] 25 O LORD, do save, we beseech You; O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity!