"Skeletons in the Closet" *Matthew 14:1-23*

The line of Herod had many fantastic opportunities to be saved.

Twice in the history of their relationship, Herodias had interfered and it's interesting that God punished Herod and Herodias exactly the same way in which they had destroyed John the Baptist!
Jesus' compassion is NOT based upon the suffering of time but based upon their status in eternity apart from personal faith in Him.
Every time Jesus healed and every time a miracle was performed during the apostolic age, the purpose was to focus attention on Jesus Christ and His reason for coming to earth.
The mission for our Lord's disciples is really not about all of these people, it's: Can a believer who's been listening to biblical truth for years keep his eyes on the Lord under testing or not?
The disciples had their minds on their physical condition and obviously, if Jesus Christ is the Son of God, it isn't going to be any problem to provide food and all they had to do was to remember the children of Israel in the desert.
They see the situation as being hopeless and the reason they do is that they're not viewing it from divine viewpoint, no biblical truth in their stream of consciousness, no wisdom applied, no operation faith-rest, no focus on the Person of Christ.
Jesus multiplied the 5 little loaves and 2 measly fish and the principle behind this is that multiplication comes from giving.
What did the disciples do?
They gave and gave and they gave more and as long as they were giving, there was more to give.
And of course, the full basket is a picture of the grace of God and by way of application, when you give out the Word and keep on giving it, more comes to you and you'll always have a full soul inventory of it.