



A Banquet (BBQ) at the Big White House - July 4, 2019



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - August 2, 2020

(All text in GREEN is linked, you may click on those links.)

Call To Worship the LORD

Hearing of the Word (You may read responsively, if in community.)

[Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21](#)

Prayer of Adoration (You may offer your own prayers of adoration.)

Great are You, O Lord, and greatly to be praised;
 great is Your power, and of Your wisdom there is no end.
 And man, being a part of Your creation, desires to praise You
 — man, who bears about with him his mortality, the witness of his sin,
 even the witness that You “resist the proud,” —
 yet man, this part of Your creation, desires to praise You.
 You move us to delight in praising You;
 for You have made us for Yourself,
 and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.

~ St. Augustine, *Confessions* 1.1.1

Songs of Adoration and Praise

[One Thing Remains](#)

[Wonderful Merciful Savior](#)

[What A Friend We Have In Jesus](#)

Prayer of Confession (You may offer your own prayers of confession.)

Most merciful God,
 we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us and forgive us;
 that we may delight in your will,
 and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your name.
 Feed us now with your Word. *Amen.*

Teaching of the Word ([Zoom](#) at 11 am; Passcode: 378080)

“A Tale of Two Banquets” - [Matthew 14:13-21](#)

[Dr. David Turner](#)

Emeritus Professor of New Testament
 Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

Dr. Turner will be teaching this week and next at Genesis. Among his publications are:

[Interpreting the Gospels and Acts: An Exegetical Handbook](#) (2019)
[Israel's Last Prophet: Jesus and the Jewish Leaders in Matthew 23](#) (2015)
[Matthew \(Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament\)](#) (2008)
[Matthew, Mark \(Cornerstone Biblical Commentary\)](#) (2006)

He also served on the translation team for the Gospel of Matthew in the [New Living Translation](#)

(Teaching Notes found at bottom of this document.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (if in community, read responsively the indented text)

The Lord is here
 His Spirit is with us.
 Lift up your hearts.
 We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is always right to give you thanks, God our Creator,
 loving and faithful, holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.
You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Savior, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.
You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ has died.
Jesus Christ has died.
Jesus Christ is risen.
Jesus Christ is risen.
Jesus Christ will come again.
Jesus Christ will come again. Amen.

The Table

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

I Corinthians 11:23-26

During this unique time of life with a pandemic, you may participate in the breaking of the bread and taking of the cup in your own homes.

Song of Response

Living Hope

Community Life

Weekday Prayers

Feel free to share [prayer requests](#) to help guide our prayers.

Next Sunday - Please read and meditate on these texts, as Dr. Turner teaches again:

[Psalm 85:8-13](#) • [1 Kings 19:9-18](#) • [Matthew 14:22-33](#) • [Romans 10:5-15](#)

Thanks-giving

As an act of worship, may we give generously, as God has been generous to us.
Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Barn Giving: \$465,977 Matching Challenge: \$500,000

A Prayer of Supplication (You may offer your own prayers of supplication.)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

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Elders & Wives:

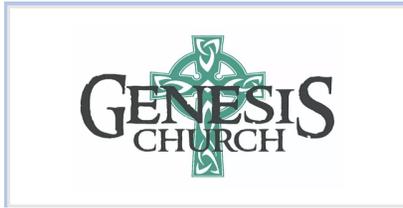
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A Tale of Two Banquets (Matthew 14:1-21)

9th Sunday after Pentecost, August 2, 2020

A few background thoughts . . .

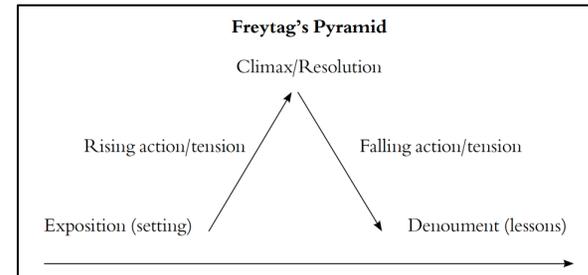
- Jesus' fed the multitudes somewhere on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee.
- Around 480 CE the miracle was commemorated by a new mosaic floor in the Church of the Multiplication at Tabgha. The floor portrays the bread and fish under the church's altar.



- **Banquets are big in the Bible.**
 - God gave the **first** banquet for Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (**Gen 1-2**).
 - God gave Israel bread from heaven in the wilderness through **Moses** (**Exod16; Ps 78:17-32**).
 - Jesus gave Israel and all the nations the Bread of Life through **Jesus** (**John 6**).
 - God will give the **ultimate** banquet for the Lamb and the his Bride (**Matt 8:11; Rev 19**).
 - Jesus gave the church **a meal** as a **sign** and **seal** of its relationship to him (**Matt 14:19; 26:26-29**).
- The Feeding of the Multitude is the **only** miracle of Jesus found in **all four** Gospels
 - **Matt 14:13-21 // Mark 6:32-44 // Luke 9:10-17 // John 6:1-13**
- Matthew tells the story of **Jesus' gracious banquet** right after the story of **Herod's gory banquet**.
 - Matt 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 9:7-9
 - Reading Matt 14:13-21 after 14:1-12 provides an **amazing contrast** between two **leaders** and how they used their **power**. This is well worth pondering.

How Matthew's banquet story works . . .

- Gustav Freytag (1816-1896) showed how well-told stories **introduce tension, bring it to a head, and then resolve it**. Read **Matthew 14:13-21** carefully to see how it fits this pattern.



What do we take away from Jesus feeding of the multitudes ?

- Jesus used his miraculous power under the leading of the Spirit to **demonstrate** God's loving compassion for needy people and to **draw** them into his Kingdom. **We should use our resources in the same way to serve and bless those in need.**
- Some think that the "miracle" here was a merely a matter of Jesus motivating everyone to share what was already in their own picnic baskets. When we pool our meager resources we are surprised that they are adequate. **OK**, but the text says Jesus supernaturally multiplied the disciples' loaves and fish.
- As John 6 makes clear, we can get caught up with our **felt need** for bread and miss our **deepest need** for the Bread of Life. God's compassion for our physical **sustenance** shows us his concern for the **salvation** of our souls. Jesus came to save us from our sins (Matt 1:21). He gave his life as a ransom (Matt 20:28), shedding his blood so that we may be forgiven ((Matt 26:28).
- It's easy for Christians to get caught up in today's reactionary political climate and make a stand for **personal salvation** with the right wing or for **social justice** with the left. Jesus' compassion help us avoid a one-sided approach to ministry. **How does it impact Genesis Church?**

People do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 8:3 // Matthew 4:4 (NLT)